

**LYNNE TRUSS**

It was a hair's breadth from Ruud  
PAGE 50

**TODAY**

**DR THOMAS STUTTAFFORD**

Transsexuals and trusting partners  
PAGE 3

**JOE JOSEPH**

Why Trafalgar Square is the top place to kiss in public  
PAGE 20

**TOMORROW**

**THE NEW KENNEDY GLAMOUR**

## Job agency boss joins ranks of Labour's big business donors

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

THE chairman of Reed Executive, the employment agency, was named last night as the Labour party's latest big business donor. Labour officials told *The Times* that Alec Reed was giving the party £100,000, lifting to £6 million the total it has raised in individual gifts from business people.

Greg Dyke, chief executive of Pearson Television, and Lord Hollick, chief executive of United News and Media, which owns the *Daily Express*, were also named as donors, both of them giving between £25,000 and £50,000. Mr Blair will today press John Major yet again to refer the issue of party funding to the Nolan committee on standards in public life.

Labour officials revealed the donations hours after John Major had spoken of the "secret fund" that was being used to fund Mr Blair's private office. It was confirmed last weekend that Mr Blair had received up to £500,000 through a "blind trust" and did not know the donors.

Mr Major said: "They call for openness in funding but have secret funds themselves. I wonder what the parliamentary word for that behaviour is." But Labour party officials said that it was determined to be open over where its funds were coming from, and were trying to force the Conservatives to do the same.

Professor Reed said last night: "New Labour is firmly in the centre ground, speaking up for the things that matter to the British public. I think Tony Blair is an exceptional leader who has brought hope back to British politics. Given the huge sums the Tories have for their negative campaigning I am doing my bit to help Labour fight back and put the positive vision the country longs for."

It follows the £1m pledged by the late Matthew Harding, vice-chairman of Chelsea football club, who died last month in a helicopter accident, and Bob Gavron, the publishing millionaire, who donated £500,000. Paul Hamlyn, the publisher, gave £600,000. Labour is planning to publish all the donations it has received over £5,000 next year but it is to announce them gradually, hoping each time to add to the pressure on the Government.

The money has been raised mainly by a new election fund campaign committee which includes members such as Mr Gavron, Lord Attenborough, the film maker, Michael Levy, head of a music publishing group, and Tom Sawyer, general secretary of the party. They are backed by a new party business committee which includes members such as Christopher Haskins, chairman of Northern Foods, Geoffrey Robinson, MP for

## Major faces revolt over EU debate

By Philip Webster, Political Editor, and Andrew Pierce

JOHN MAJOR was last night facing one of the biggest European revolts of his premiership as pro-Europeans united with Euro-sceptics to protest against his refusal to allow a Commons debate on the single currency.

Leaders of the backbench 1922 Committee were seeking an early meeting with the Prime Minister after he announced Tony Newton, the Commons leader, resisted demands for a full-scale discussion on three directives relating to economic and monetary union (EMU). In the Commons, Mr Major was openly contradicted by his own side as he claimed that the regulations had already been given "detailed scrutiny" in a rowdy committee session on Wednesday. Both Tony Blair and Paddy Ashdown tried to twist the knife and last night Mr Blair wrote to Mr Major, telling him that he must not "cheat" the House of a proper discussion.

Later a private meeting of the 1922 Committee of Tory backbenchers delivered what MPs called a "unanimous and uncompromising" message to Mr Major that he must change his mind. Sir Marcus Fox, chairman of the committee, and two other officers were asked by the executive of the committee to seek an urgent meeting with Mr Major to convey the full weight of backbench anger. Unusually, they were asked to see him last night.

The Prime Minister was reported to be in no mood to

back down. Conservative sources said last night that Mr Major would be seeing Sir Marcus Fox next week. Sources said: "He will be happy to listen to what the chairman has to say, but for the moment there is nothing to add to what was said this afternoon."

The *Times* understands that several Cabinet ministers were in favour of allowing a separate Commons debate on EMU before the meeting of European finance ministers on December 2. But they were overruled by the Prime Minister and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor.

Mr Blair echoed the view of Tory Euro-sceptics that Mr Major was refusing the debate because he did not want to expose the pro-European Mr Clarke to sensitive questions in the Commons on the single currency. He said: "In view of the extraordinary importance of the European reports on a single currency — matters which may be decided by ministers in December — would you agree on reflection that it would be quite monstrous to deny this House a chance to debate, in full, those reports?"

As Tory Euro-sceptics such as John Redwood shook their heads, Mr Major insisted: "There was detailed scrutiny in the standing committee. In due course we will be tabling the appropriate motion. No final decisions are taken at the meeting of finance ministers."

Mr Blair replied: "Wouldn't you be a good deal more

honest if you simply stood at that despatch box and said you are afraid to have the Chancellor stand and debate these issues?"

Mr Major retorted: "Anyone who thinks Mr Clarke isn't willing, able and competent to debate with you or anyone on any subject, simply doesn't know him."

It is understood that Mr Clarke assured other ministers yesterday that there was no likelihood of any legislative decisions on single currency preparations being taken at the finance ministers meeting and that MPs would therefore have ample opportunity to discuss the issue at a planned Commons debate on Europe before the Dublin summit.

But this line was unacceptable to most Tory MPs who want a separate opportunity to debate, and if possible vote upon, detailed issues surrounding the preparation for a single currency.

In the Commons, Mr Major was contradicted by David Heathcoat-Amory, the former minister who resigned over Europe. The MP had been present at the Commons Standing Committee B which looked at the regulations on Wednesday and he told Mr Major to cheer from his colleagues, that there had been "no proper scrutiny".

The Government has to table a motion stating that the

Peter Riddell, page 13  
Leading article, page 23



Jemima Khan, wife of the former Pakistan cricketer turned politician, leaving Portland Hospital in London yesterday with their first baby, a boy named Sulaiman Isa

## More children from better off homes expelled

By David Charter, Education Correspondent

THE growing ranks of expelled pupils are being swelled by disruptive children from middle-class backgrounds who lack fathers as role models. Ofsted, the school inspection agency, said yesterday.

Government figures confirmed yesterday that expulsions have more than tripled since 1990, with 11,084 children banned from their schools in 1994-95.

David Moore, a senior inspector with Ofsted, said that schools in affluent areas were increasingly banning children. Research showed that those involved often had fathers absent either through work commitments or marital breakdown.

Mr Moore was speaking at the launch of an Ofsted study which said that some schools were too ready to expel and blamed boring lessons for encouraging disruptive behaviour. His findings echoed warnings from independent school heads that "opulent neglect" was causing a wave of unruly behaviour in exclusive schools.

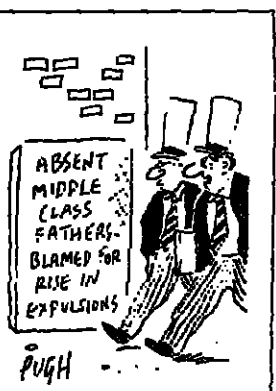
Tony Evans, chairman of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference of leading independent schools, spoke this year about the danger to classroom order posed by parents too busy

with their careers to care for their children. Mr Evans stirred national debate on family life when he said that schools were having to cope with the emotional crises of children whose parents were too busy to talk to them.

Inspectors from Ofsted visited 30 schools for the report and found a common pattern of pupils misbehaving where the father was missing as a role model. "It puts a lot of pressure on the mother," Mr

Continued on page 2, col 5

Education, page 39



"I was expelled last year, but I'm still waiting for my dad to come and collect me"

### Top cartoonist

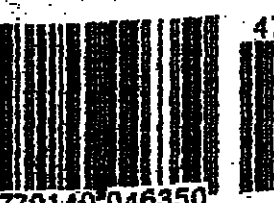
The *Times* cartoonist Peter Brookes has been named best political cartoonist of the year in the 1996 Cartoon Trust awards. Mr Brookes also works for *The Spectator*.

### Briton escapes

Christopher Howes, a British mine-clearance expert, is said to have escaped from Khmer Rouge guerrillas. He had been presumed dead...Page 2

During The Times overseas service...  
Austria 40, Belgium 40, Canada 40, France 40, Germany 40, Italy 40, Japan 40, Netherlands 40, Portugal 40, Spain 40, Sweden 40, Switzerland 40, Taiwan 40, USA 40, UK 40.

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## Widow is barred from taking sperm abroad

By Emma Wilkins and Kathryn Knight

DIANE BLOOD, the widow who fought a court battle for the right to use her dead husband's sperm to conceive, was distraught last night after being told she would not be able to take the sperm abroad for artificial insemination.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority decided that Mrs Blood, 30, should not be allowed to travel to the Continent to receive fertility treatment.

Mrs Blood, whose husband Stephen died 18 months ago of bacterial meningitis, had spoken of her optimism after the authority said it was going to review the issue at the end of October.

However, last night her father Michael McMahon said the Human Embryology had contacted them with their final decision. "Diane is extremely upset, very disappointed and outraged at the way the authority has behaved. Even though she was

trying not to be too optimistic, inevitably she had her hopes up high — they have just been dashed."

The fight will now go to the Court of Appeal, he said.

The authority is bound by the 1990 Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act to disallow the use of sperm in Britain unless the donor has given his written consent. However, in cases where sperm is to be exported or imported, it has discretionary powers.

The authority decided last month to reconsider Mrs Blood's case after considerable media coverage of her plight. After the High Court turned down her application, Baroness Warnock and Lord Winston, both fertility experts, spoke out in Mrs Blood's support.

The authority, which called a press conference last night, abandoned its plans when a spokeswoman discovered that Mrs Blood had not yet been informed of its decision.



Mrs Blood: optimism after court failure

## Channel fire boosts fortunes of Dover

By Jonathan Prynne, Transport Correspondent

THE closure of the Channel Tunnel has brought a return to the boom times for Dover with record numbers of cars and lorries bound for France pouring into the struggling Kent port yesterday.

As Eurotunnel admitted that two of its three main safety systems failed during Monday's fire, the tunnel remained barred to all traffic except a few freight trains — 36 compared to 300 car, freight and Eurostar passen-

ger services on a normal day. In a reversal of fortunes, the port of Dover, which has seen almost half its business lost to the tunnel in the past two years, reported handling an all-time record of 5,484 lorries yesterday.

Passenger numbers have also leaped by more than 50 per cent since Monday's blaze. In total, ferries to and from Dover carried 44,734 passengers, 8,889 cars and 302 coaches.

Safety failure, page 7  
Letters, page 23

### TIMES EUROSTAR TICKET OFFER

Eurostar said yesterday that it would honour all valid free ticket applications made under the current *Times* offer despite the temporary suspension of services caused by the closure of the Channel Tunnel. In addition, Eurostar has agreed to extend the time the offer can be taken up by four months to August 31, 1997. As the authorities have not yet

announced the reopening of the tunnel for Eurostar services it is possible that availability of travel on free tickets before Christmas may be affected. Readers should continue to apply for tickets as previously announced. Full travel details will be included in the packs which will be sent with the ticket voucher.

Today's token, page 39

TV & RADIO	50, 51
WEATHER	26
CROSSWORDS	26, 52

LETTERS	23, 31, 48
OBITUARIES	25
BERNARD LEVIN	22

ARTS	41-43
CHESS & BRIDGE	45
COURT & SOCIAL	24

SPORT	45-50, 52
EUROSTAR TOKEN	39
LAW REPORT	40

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## Demons gloat as ill winds blow no good for skipper

Describing Wednesday's Commons proceedings, this sketch reported the appearance in the Commons chamber of an omen, and a sinister one: Sir George Gardiner (C, Reigate), a thin smile upon his lips, standing at the Bar of the House. We noted that when trouble for the Tories was brewing, Sir George was seldom far away. Yesterday the omens multiplied.

Three or four benches back from the front bench, below the gangway and somewhat to its end, lies the epicentre of an invisible zone. No more than six yards square, it is a zone of menace for Tory Cabinets: a vortex of the forces of mutiny.

It was from here that Geoffrey Howe launched his fatal attack on Margaret Thatcher: from here that Thatcher took aim at her successor's Maastricht agreement: from here that Norman Lamont described John Major as "in office but not in power". The ghosts of such occasions still inhabit those benches. As unmarked on formal Parliamentary maps as the Bermuda Triangle is unmarked on navigational charts, this small patch of green leather radiates spirals of stress, anger and treachery.

Positioned just off-centre in the Commons Triangle for Prime Minister's Questions yesterday, was John Redwood. Pallid and unblink-



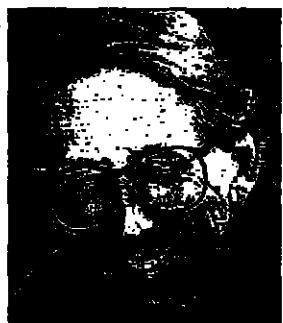
POLITICAL SKETCH

ing, his silent presence was enough. It will have chilled Majorities as might the appearance of a death's head in their midst. And there was worse. In the Peers' Gallery above, the gaunt features of Norman Tebbit leered down like some malign gargoyle, gleeful witness to their discomfort. Lord Tebbit had come for the fun — and to be seen there.

An observer who was profoundly deaf could have read the scene as accurately as we who could hear. What we heard was Tony Blair seizing the advantage and forcing the Prime Minister into an awkward defence of the Cabinet's decision not to allow a debate on the European Monetary proposals.

The subject may be arcane — the exchanges difficult (in cold print) to weigh — but there was no mistaking Tory backbench anger, or ministerial embarrassment.

If meteorologists could weather-map political trouble, this morning's charts would show an area of intense pressure situated, not over the Azores, but over the Commons Triangle. Puffing an ill wind from the top right corner, like those cherubim on antique maps, would be the pursed cheeks of Lord



Gardiner: bad omen

Tebbit. The sea monsters such maps show would bear the faces of prominent Tory Eurosceptics, cruising around the Prime Minister.

In a small boat, storm-tossed but still afloat, John Major and his Chief Whip would peer anxiously over the sides.

For Mr Major, respite from the storm came near the end of PM's Questions when, in riposte to Labour's John McAllion (Dundee E), who had been unwise enough to raise the subject of fat-cat funding of political parties, Major lashed back with angry eloquence at the "blind trust" which funded the Labour Leader's office.

The Tories cheered lustily. Thus the Prime Minister rescued himself in the final round. Just when Major seems to be sunk, a fair wind and a flash of sunshine saves him. Just when he seems to be sailing free another hurricane strikes. His torment, prolonged for their private amusement by the gods of politics, has endured so long now that rescue, when it comes, comes almost as an act of cruelty. One begins to wonder whether the gods could be preparing their most extraordinary intervention yet, next May.

## Major faces revolt by MPs

Continued from page 1  
regulations have been taken note of before, technically, Mr Major can agree to anything in Dublin. MPs cannot debate the motion but could vote it down, and many were last night vowing to do so. The Government can be expected to table the motion late at night, probably on a Thursday, so it can be voted through on a quiet Friday.

At least 60 MPs crowded into the 1922 Committee

meeting. Christopher Gill, the Euro-sceptic MP for Ludlow, was cheered when he declared: "Right-wing MPs are at breaking point in terms of support for the Government."

The latest controversy comes only days after Mr Major infuriated backbenchers who have traditionally been loyal by refusing to give them the same free vote which Labour MPs enjoyed on the Firearms Bill.

John Wilkinson, one of the eight Tory Euro-rebels once stripped of the whip, said: "I now comprehend the rage that filled the breasts of the parliamentarians in the Civil War in this country and of the colonies in the American revolutionary war — because the issue at stake in both occasions was an abuse of executive power."

Peter Riddell, page 13  
Leading article, page 23

## Mines expert flees his Khmer Rouge captors

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN BANGKOK AND HUW WATKINS IN PHNOM PENH

A BRITISH mine clearance expert was yesterday reported to be fit and well after fleeing eight months' captivity with Khmer Rouge guerrillas. Christopher Howes, who was earlier reported to have been killed, was said by a Cambodian Army general to be fine "but very thin".

The former army corporal from Bristol is believed to be sheltering with Cambodian troops in the central province of Kompong Thom, in an area previously controlled by Pol Pot, the Khmer Rouge leader. Huon Hoerth, a Cambodian described as Mr Howes' companion and interpreter, was reported to be with him.

General Nhek Bun Chhay, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Cambodian Army, said that both would fly to the Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh, today. The two men, members of the British-based Mines Advisory Group, reached

lions of landmines left after protracted civil wars involving the Khmer Rouge. He and his interpreter were abducted close to the Angkor Wat temple complex, a remote tourist attraction, in March.

After his capture Mr Howes declined an invitation by the Khmer Rouge to go free to collect a ransom they had demanded, preferring instead to remain with his 23 colleagues. As a result all 23 were released while Mr Howes and Mr Hoerth were kept as hostages.

In August, the *Bangkok Post* said Mr Howes had been executed and that Mr Hoerth had died of malaria in July.

Friends and family of Mr Howes spoke yesterday of the leadership qualities of the Falklands veteran. Fiona Talcott, MAG's southeast Asia desk officer, said Mr Howes was a valued and well-respected member of its Cambodian team who trained local Cambodian staff to identify and dispose of the wide variety of mines that litter the Cambodian countryside.

Some Cambodian army reports suggested that Mr Howes was being forced to apply his explosive expertise in making bombs and shells for the Khmer Rouge.

Mr Howes' leadership and endurance was clear from an early age, according to a scout leader who knew him in his school years in Nailsea, north Somerset.

Phil Siggins, Scout leader of 1st Nailsea Troop in the early 1970s, said he was an enthusiastic boy who, aged 15, completed the 35-mile Ten Tents army yomp across Dartmoor. "I also remember him for keeping a very cool head when one of the troop fell off a rope, knocking himself unconscious," Christopher remembered how to summon help by blowing out an SOS call on a whistle and the boy "was quickly taken to hospital".

Mr Siggins, 68, who is a close friend of the Howes family, said everyone had rallied round Christopher's parents in recent months. The couple had made several appeals, begging their son's captors to set their minds to free him.

Mr Howes trained Cambodian troops in clearing mines with 33 Engineer Regiment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) in the late 1970s. He spent seven years with the corps doing operational tours in Germany, Belize, Northern Ireland and the Falkland Islands.

After working in the quarrying industry Mr Howes found a peaceful application for his military skills when he joined the Mines Advisory Group in 1993. He worked clearing mines and training civilian

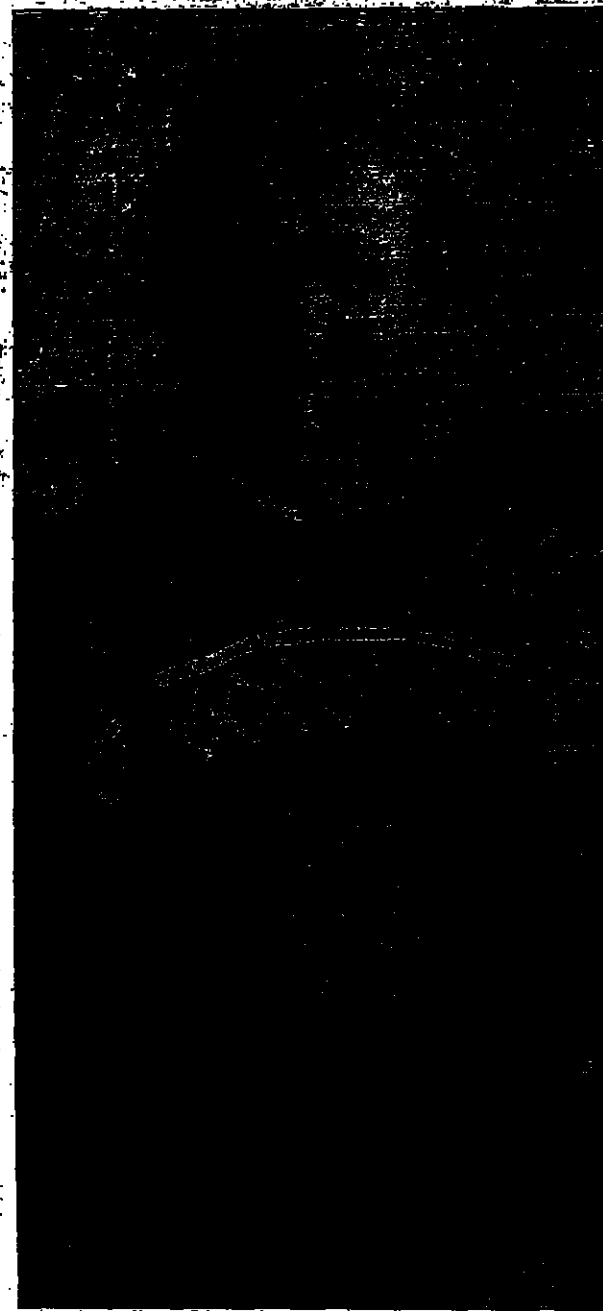


Along Kranh village in the company of Khmer Rouge guards and defectors, the general said.

"There were 151 separatists led by a division commander, including Howes' 11 guards," he said. "They helped him escape. It took a long time because there were problems in travelling. I spoke to him today by radio and he said he is very well but very thin."

Mr Howes' father, Roy, 68, said: "I am very happy about what we have heard, but we will treat it with great caution." Mr Howes, who travelled to London with his wife Betty yesterday, said he was now too old a soldier to be taken in by rumours. "Until we hear it from the Foreign Office we shall unhappily regard it as rumour."

His son was assisting the Cambodians in clearing mil-



Christopher Howes before he was seized. His parents said they wanted confirmation before believing he was free

personnel in Kurdistan and Northern Iraq before being sent to Cambodia in November 1995 as a technical adviser.

It was in Kurdistan that he reportedly earned the name "Nine Dogs Howes" for his skills with a sniper's rifle seeing off feral dogs. He was described by colleagues as a cool-headed individual.

Additional reporting by Peter Foster

## Hospital waiting list grows longer

The number of patients waiting for more than a year for NHS treatment has risen almost 50 per cent in three months, as hospitals cut back on non-urgent cases to balance their books. At the end of September, 15,000 people had waited more than a year, compared with 10,374 at the end of June. Last March the figure was 4,574. However, it is still lower than in September last year, when the total was 27,900. The total number on waiting lists has also risen slightly by 0.4 per cent to 1,060,200, and is now 2 per cent higher than a year ago.

## Jobs campaign

A campaign to restore the rights of Irish and Commonwealth nationals to work in key public service jobs has been mounted by civil service unions. Since June new recruits with Irish or Commonwealth passports may not hold posts "deemed to require an allegiance to the Crown".

## Benefit extended

Hundreds of workers affected by the asbestos-related cancer mesothelioma yesterday won the right to £100-a-week industrial injuries benefit. Thousands of miners who suffered respiratory illness caused by inhaling dust and fumes underground will also be awarded £50 a week.

## Millennium fillip

The Millennium Exhibition in Greenwich, southeast London, received a significant boost with the announcement that the Government is buying the derelict site on which the millennium dome will be built. The polluted peninsula is being bought from British Gas for £20 million.

## Pit fee attacked

The terms of a £25 million "success fee" for N.M. Rothschild and Sons for advising on the sale of coal mines were fixed after some stages had been successfully completed, the Commons Public Accounts Committee reported. Such terms should be fixed in advance in future, it said.

## Council fined

Camden Council in north London was fined £44,000 with £11,500 in costs at Clerkenwell Magistrates' Court yesterday for offences that could have killed 150 tenants from gas fumes. The council failed to ensure that flues and installations to 200 gas fires were inspected.

## Stones succeed

The German magazine *Der Spiegel* has agreed to publish a correction to an allegation that the Rolling Stones mined some of the songs during their Voodoo Lounge world tour, Walter Scheuer, a lawyer for the group, said. In return the Stones have agreed not to claim damages.

## Car premiums up

The average motorist could be paying up to £30 more on a £350 car insurance policy in the new year because of increasing claims and an increase in tax. Young drivers and those in professions considered high risk could face even greater increases in their premiums.

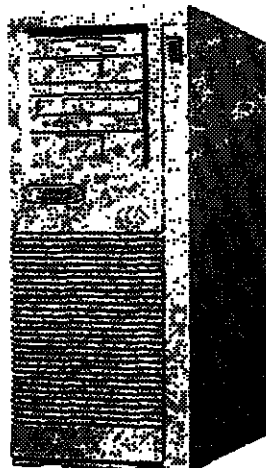
## Bird degree

The veteran cricket umpire Dickie Bird finally received an honorary doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University after snow had stopped play. The presentation, at Sheffield City Hall, took place after freak storms earlier this week had caused the cancellation of the original ceremony.

## Toilet auction

A two-day auction of treasure recovered from the wreck of the Royal Mail steamer *Douro* ended with the sale of the ship's lavatory. It went for £495, bringing to £1,508,200 the total sale proceeds. The *Douro* sank in the Bay of Biscay in 1882 with the loss of 17 lives.

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## Terrorist bomb is defused in Ulster

BY NICHOLAS WATT

ARMY bomb disposal experts yesterday defused a 600lb car bomb planted by republican terrorists outside the main RUC station in the centre of Londonderry.

Troops acted after the "Continuity Army Council" of the IRA, a splinter terrorist group, issued bomb warnings to radio stations and local newspapers on both sides of the Irish border just after 11.30am. A caller, who did not use a codeword, said that a 600lb bomb had been packed into the boot of a Renault 11 car outside the Strand Road RUC station.

Within minutes of the warnings police evacuated most of its staff from the RUC station and people from nearby buildings. At around 1.00pm army bomb disposal experts carried out a controlled explosion on the device. A security source said that the bomb would have devastated a large area of Londonderry if it had exploded outside the RUC base, which is about 300 yards from the city's Guildhall. The source said: "It was a viable device. Home-made explosives were packed into 13 bags."

John Hume, the leader of the SDLP, who is the MP for Foyle, condemned the bombers. He said: "I am obviously deeply angered by this. The people who are engaged in this activity are the enemies of Derry and of the people of Ireland."

## Public managers must carry the can says Nolan

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT  
WHITEHALL EDITOR

LORD Nolan said last night that the heads of Government agencies, such as the prison service, and other senior officials should be more accountable to the public.

The law lord appointed to monitor standards in public life, Lord Nolan attacked the present system which allowed senior managers to be shielded behind the cloak of Ministers' accountability.

He highlighted his case with the position of Gillian Shephard, Education and Employment Secretary, who twice in recent weeks had to become involved in the difficulties of problem schools. He said that the right people had to be accountable and problems could no longer be hushed up. They had to be openly answerable to the public for their actions and decisions. He criticised Ministers for defending the status quo and described the present position as "an unsatisfactory half-way house".

Lord Nolan spoke out last night because he is concerned that while the Government has pressed ahead to introduce more efficient management styles into the civil service, they have failed to respond to the public pressure for public services to be more accountable.

He argued that chief executives were frequently public figures and he cited the early days of the Child Support Agency, for example, when its



Nolan: attacked lack of accountability

former head, Ros Hepplewhite, was as much a target of public protest as the Minister. The Civil Service was now a complex structure and officials could no longer expect to work anonymously within their "departmental bosom". Speaking in his second Radcliffe Lecture at Warwick University, Lord Nolan said: "If accountability is only through Ministers, in respect of an agency with hundreds of offices and thousands of clients, the chain is too long, the person who should be answerable remains shielded from public view and true accountability is weakened."

He reiterated his view that the civil service had long used ministerial accountability as an excuse for secrecy, but he warned that it was now being used to slow down the growth in accountability.

## Affluent expulsions

Continued from page 1  
Moore said. "The absence of a father can have an influence and that also applied to middle-class children who were high achievers. Where their fathers were absent, the opportunity for them to take advantage was increased."

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, said official figures yesterday showed that 1,365 children were excluded from

primary schools and 9,197 from secondary schools in 1994-95. She said: "Schools must have the right to exclude the small minority of severely disruptive pupils whose behaviour is intractable. But permanent exclusion should be a last resort, and Ofsted's report indicates that schools should be able to contain many who are excluded."

Education, page 39

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## Female 'husband' fooled wife for 17 years, judges told

By DANIEL MCGRODY

A TRANSSEXUAL whose 17-year marriage to a wealthy society heiress ended when his wife discovered "he" was a woman who wore a false penis lost his claim in the Court of Appeal yesterday for a share of their marital home.

The 50-year-old "husband" said that he would now take his case to the European Court of Human Rights for the money and access to his two children. They were born after the wife was artificially inseminated after telling a fertility clinic her husband had had a vasectomy.

She had admitted being sexually inexperienced and believed her husband was either "deformed or just very small". In fact, her husband had been born and brought up as a girl, though by the age of 17 was living as a man and using a hipposideris prosthesis to have sex with women.

He later underwent hormone treatment and had both breasts removed before meeting his future wife at a restaurant where they were both working.

The wife, who is heiress to an estate worth "tens of millions", only discovered her husband's true sexuality after



Lord Justice Ward: was "astonished"

a family row prompted her to hire a private detective who found his birth certificate.

In their 83-page judgement yesterday the three appeal court judges agreed that the transsexual had deceived his wife and committed perjury at their wedding when he said there was no lawful hindrance to the marriage.

Lord Justice Ward said that although "the plight of the transsexual should command sympathy" his deception had traumatised his wife. "The facts of this case boil down to an attempt to gain benefit

which accrues only through wrongdoing," the judge said.

The action was seen by lawyers as a test over the legalisation of transsexual marriages, recognised by many European countries.

Lord Justice Ward said he had sympathy for both parties in the "sad story", and ruled that neither could be identified in any way so as to protect their children — a boy now aged 9 and a girl aged 4.

The judge recounted how the couple met when the wife was aged 19, eleven years younger than the transsexual, and "an unhappy theology undergraduate disaffected by university". Their sexual relationship began soon after they met. "They began to live together and on July 7, 1977, went through a ceremony of marriage despite opposition from the plaintiff's family."

"Many — and I am one of them — will find it quite astonishing that there was no single occasion in 17 years of life together when her eyes did not see, or her hands or her body feel, or her senses tell her that she was living with a man who had the genital formation of a woman, a man who did not simply have a small or deformed penis, but had no penis at all."

The relationship began to break down in 1994 and the wife petitioned for divorce, telling a close friend of "peculiarities... his nipples, the scars under his arms, the fact that he used an artificial penis and the blood stains."

The defendant had never undergone the recommended surgical construction of a penis and retained the genital organs of a woman. He gave evidence how they had sex using a fake penis made of plaster of Paris which he wore constantly.

He contends that after their marriage his wife discovered his vagina while they were in bed. "She said, 'Do you want to talk about it?' I said 'No'. That was stupid."

His wife denied such an incident and insisted her husband never revealed his true gender. She never saw him naked, she said.

The marriage was formally annulled in October 1994. All three judges — Lord Justice Ward, Lord Justice Potter and Lord Justice Neill — refused the defendant any financial settlement from the marriage.

Madeline Rees, who represented the defendant, said after the ruling: "The civil rights of transsexuals have still to be recognised in this country which is why we shall pursue this to the House of Lords if possible, and then certainly to Europe."

"All he was seeking was half the value of the house he helped build, about £200,000. His wife has tens of millions and will give him nothing, nor let him see his children."

The UK is almost alone in Europe and the rest of the common law world in refusing to allow the approximately 50,000 transsexuals in the country to change their birth certificates and thus legally marry. In 1986 the European Court of Human Rights said it was not an infringement of rights but Terrence Walton, a solicitor, believes the UK will come under pressure over the position. Allowing birth certificates changes would create other legal rights revolving around marriage, children, property and trusts.



Mrs Shand Kydd leaving Oban court, where she denies a charge of drink-driving

## Diana's mother 'may have been upset by letter'

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

THE "tearful and distraught" demeanour of Frances Shand Kydd, mother of Diana, Princess of Wales as she was driven home by police after being arrested on suspicion of drink-driving may have been caused by a letter she had received, Oban Sheriff's court was told yesterday.

Detective Sergeant Dugald MacCallum of Oban police said Mrs Shand Kydd, 60, wept during the 25-minute drive to her home on the island of Seil, Argyll and Bute, on April 5 and was not her normal self.

Sergeant MacCallum was giving evidence on the second day of Mrs Shand Kydd's trial before Sheriff William Dunlop. She denies charges of driving while over the alcohol limit and failing to provide a breath test.

Andrew Hardie, QC, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates and head of Mrs Shand Kydd's four-strong defence team, asked if Mrs Shand Kydd had offered any explanation for her distressed state or whether she had mentioned receiving a communication or letter that day. Sergeant MacCallum said he did not know if she mentioned it that day or the next.

He said Mrs Shand Kydd had admitted to him that she had not eaten all day because it was Good Friday, but she had had a glass of wine. Asked if he thought she was drunk, Sergeant MacCallum said: "I

honestly would not like to say." One and a half hours earlier, Mrs Shand Kydd had been arrested in Oban after an off duty police officer spotted her walking unsteadily towards her car, bumping into parked vehicles, before getting into it and driving off.

She was arrested and a blood sample taken with her permission. It was divided between two phials. Mrs Shand Kydd was offered one, which she refused, he said. Tests later found 206 milligrams of alcohol in one millilitre of blood, exceeding the 80 milligram limit.

Constable Michael Woods insisted that the police procedures were followed throughout using form 482, which outlined the correct method of obtaining blood samples. This crucial document subsequently went missing and has never been found. The court only has a photocopy taken before it was lost as evidence.

Mr Hardie claimed that Mrs Shand Kydd was unsteady on her feet because of an earlier fall which had injured her left ankle and knee. She also had trouble with her right leg after an operation in 1987.

Her eyes were red, not because of alcohol, but because she had been crying, he said. He suggested her emotional distress had been sparked by a communication received possibly that same day. The case continues.

## The women who make sacrifices to live like men

### MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

IT IS no surprise to doctors to hear that a transsexual woman formed a lasting relationship with another woman, and even went through a form of marriage. Twenty years ago a survey showed that nearly all transsexual women who have surgery to change their apparent gender find a female lover, and many establish an enduring partnership with them.

Nor is it rare for children to be involved. Often the partner who plays the wifely role already has children of her own. In other instances, as in the case which was heard by the Court of Appeal, children have been conceived as a result of artificial insemination.

What is most remarkable is that the wife in the recent court case was unaware that such masculine appearance as her husband had was the result of surgical and medical skills, and not of nature. The wife was apparently deceived by her partner's double mastectomy, and by the masculinisation achieved by hormone therapy. The woman either presumably didn't recognise her partner's diddo for what it was, or thought that it was an essential aid for most men in their sexual activities.

Some older women brought up when sexual mores were very different had a lack of knowledge of anatomy and physiology which is unbeliev-

able to later generations. Nearly 40 years ago, when I was a paediatric houseman, an adolescent boy was brought to out-patients by his mother because of grossly abnormal genitalia. I suggested that the deformities should have been noticed earlier, but the mother very reasonably replied that there were only two penises she knew well, her husband's and her son's, and how was she to know which was standard issue?

The transsexual woman, who has often had a mother who found it difficult to express maternal love, has a deeply-rooted conviction that she is a man, despite all the anatomical evidence to the contrary. The woman feels that her genitalia are not only inappropriate to her gender, as she believes it, but actually abhorrent, and she therefore seeks the medical profession's help in order to re-model herself. These women have often worn male clothes from an early age, have camouflaged their gender, and have enjoyed male pursuits while they were growing up.

Female transsexuals have sometimes led very successful careers as men. In one famous case in the 19th century, a woman served as a man in a Scottish regiment and was only found to be female after she was wounded, when it also transpired that she had actually had a baby before joining up.

## Mystery £2.5m lottery winner plays for time

By CAROL MIDDLEY

THE secretive widow who claims to be the reluctant winner of £2.5 million on the National Lottery yesterday insisted she had no intention of collecting the money before last night's 11pm deadline.

In a second letter to her local newspaper the 89-year-old woman, understood to be called Enid and from Hull, enclosed part of a lottery ticket bearing the winning numbers with a note saying this proved she would not claim the prize. Camelot staff, however, said it was impossible to judge whether the slip was genuine and could not rule out a hoax.

In her letter to the Hull Daily Mail, the "winner" said: "I was very shocked and a little upset to see my letter in the paper and on the news. All I wanted to do was to put the public's mind at rest as to the whereabouts of the ticket."

"But now the matter is out, it's best for all I bring an end to it. I enclose the numbers of

my ticket to show I have no intention of claiming any money. I am sorry if I have caused any inconvenience."

As the final hours ticked away yesterday Camelot chartered a plane to fly over the city's marina at lunchtime trailing a 100ft banner with the words: "Two million pounds prize — is it you?" Camelot also kept its hotline open until 11pm so that the £2,540,754 could be claimed. Some £160,000 in interest has been lost since the prize was won in May.

The possible winner instigated a major hunt last Friday when she wrote to the paper saying she was too frightened to collect her money, claiming: "All the fuss would finish me off." She said that the ticket was left by her late husband who bought it at 11 o'clock on Friday, May 24, this year. "Enid", who has no surviving family or friends except a home help, refuses to pick up

her cheque because she wants the money to go to the hospital that looked after her sick husband.

Stan Szczotka, deputy editor of the Hull Daily Mail, has been running an appeal for the elderly woman to come forward to claim her prize so that the money does not go into a good causes national pool. He said: "The original letter writer has been back in touch with us and, despite our requests, has repeated that she will not come forward. We have agreed not to release any more details that could identify her."

"Since we published details of the first letter, scores of people have come forward claiming to have bought the winning ticket. Several people have also written in claiming to have penned the letter as a hoax."

The winning numbers were 8, 20, 26, 34, 42, 43, and the bonus ball was 25.

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# Eurotunnel admits that systems failed in fire

By JOANNA BALE AND JONATHAN FRYNN

Eurotunnel admitted yesterday that the train that caused an emergency on Monday was ablaze before it entered the tunnel, and that two of its three safety systems had failed. A French magistrate said that an investigation had not ruled out sabotage after reports of an incendiary device being thrown by striking French lorry drivers.

With the tunnel still shut last night to all but a few freight services, Alain Bertrand, operations director, confirmed that security guards saw smoke belching from a rear wagon before the lorry shuttle entered the tunnel. The driver was instructed to continue his 40-minute journey rather than stop and reverse out, so that the fire could be tackled more easily in Folkestone rather than in the Tunnel, M Bertrand said.

He added: "When smoke is

detected it is normal procedure that the train should try to reach the other side. Reversing is more dangerous because it means stopping."

This first safety procedure failed because the driver stopped the train in the tunnel. A power failure, caused by the fire, then crippled the second safety measure, which should have involved automatically uncoupling the burning wagon and continuing to Folkestone with all passengers safely in the lounge wagon.

He added: "We do not know why the driver stopped, but we do understand that a warning light went on in his cab telling him to do so. Part of that system is connected to the bridge plates on the side of the wagons which open to enable lorries to be loaded onto them. The driver stopped in a controlled way in front of the door leading to the service tunnel.



Bertrand: evacuation was successful

where our third emergency measure, an evacuation of 31 passengers and three crew, was successfully carried out."

Despite sophisticated ventilation systems designed to prevent evacuating passengers being overcome by fumes, eight suffered smoke inhalation, two of them severely, and they were taken to hospital. Mr Bertrand said there had been two Eurostar trains, two tourist shuttles and one other freight shuttle in the tunnel at the time of the fire. "Procedures were applied scrupulously, allowing everyone to be evacuated safely."

Investigations into the cause of the fire continued yesterday under the authority of a French judge. One of the examining magistrates involved in the case, Gerald Lesigne, said that he had not ruled out sabotage: "We believe the fire started on the lower part of a lorry or on the upper part of a wagon. There is no evidence of an incendiary device but we haven't been able to rule that out."

Contractors are expected to remove the nine wagons still inside the tunnel next week, after rebuilding buckled tracks. Damaged power cabling was said to have been bypassed, but the damage to the concrete lining of the tunnel had not yet been fully investigated.

Eurotunnel executives yesterday continued to gather documentation requested by the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority before it will give the go ahead to Le Shuttle, Eurostar and shuttle train services recommencing. Despite 13 hours of intensive talks on Wednesday and the delivery of hundreds of documents detailing safety procedures, three out of the four Channel Tunnel train services remained halted last night. Container freight services were the only revenue-earning trains moving, about three an hour in each direction.

Eurostar said it had stopped taking bookings until the end of the month, and had given up forecasting when the service would be running again. It emerged that marathon

talks in Calais broke down over the issue of how passengers on shuttle or Eurostar trains would be evacuated from the undamaged tunnel if there was another fire.

The Eurotunnel "safety case" is based on two fully operational tunnels allowing passengers involved in a major accident to be evacuated within 90 minutes by passing trains in the undamaged tunnel. A Eurotunnel source said that the company would today propose leaving a manned and operational shuttle train permanently parked in the damaged south tunnel, to act as an evacuation vehicle.

Further issues on which the authority required fresh information included fire prevention and smoke dispersal systems in the tunnel, the list of materials and cargos that can be transported through the tunnel, and the safety of the lattice-sided wagons involved in the accident. Jeremy Beech, the Kent county fire Officer and a member of the authority, is known to have long harboured doubts about the wagons on the grounds that they allow fire to spread too easily.

THE bill for fire damage and disruption could run to £50 million, but Eurotunnel and Eurostar insisted yesterday that these losses were covered by insurance. City analysts said that if the company is forced to replace its lattice-sided wagons, talks about a £4.7 billion refinancing package could be jeopardised.



End of the road: a burnt-out lorry in a lattice-sided wagon at Calais, where it will be examined by investigators

## TUNNEL SERVICES: PASSENGERS

Eurostar services are operated jointly by the state railways of France and Belgium and a private British consortium, London & Continental Railways. Shareholders include Virgin and National Express. The electric trains can reach 180mph, and travel at 100mph during their 20-minute journey through the tunnel. They do not carry vehicles. The trains link London Waterloo with the Gare du Nord in Paris and Gare du Midi in Brussels. By last week the services had been stepped up to between 14 and 16 departures a day to Paris and between six and eight to Brussels. Through services from Scotland and the Midlands are to start next year.

## CAR TRAINS

Eurotunnel operates a fleet of nine Le Shuttle trains between Folkestone and Calais for travellers in cars and coaches. The service runs round the clock, 365 days a year, and before the fire had reached a frequency of about 60 trains a day in each direction. Vehicles are driven on to the half-mile-long trains. The drivers and passenger can stay in their seats or wander around the carriage during the 25-minute journey. The carriages are divided by fire doors designed to contain a blaze for at least 30 minutes. After a short start the service has become hugely successful, taking about 45 per cent of the Calais traffic — and up to 100,000 cars and coaches a day.

## FREIGHT SHUTTLE

The Eurotunnel lorry shuttle is, like the car trains, a drive-on service. Tractors manoeuvre their vehicles onto the "lattice-sided" wagons. It was one of these trains that was involved in the fire on Monday night, and the flames spread to the other wagons. Eurotunnel was running about 10 freight shuttles a day in each direction before the accident, carrying a total of about 2,000 trucks. Unlike car shuttles, passengers on the freight service travel separately from their vehicles. After driving their lorries on board the tractor is hauled to a "club car" immediately behind the front locomotive, where they are tucked in a meal during the journey.

## FREIGHT CONTAINERS

A British Rail subsidiary, Rail Freight Distribution, in partnership with the French state railway SNCF, operates about 20 container freight trains a day. These are mainly long-distance services carrying goods such as cars and aggregates to Italy and Spain. They have no passengers and so were the first allowed back into the tunnel. The service lost £60 million last year and is being privatised.

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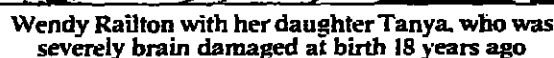
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THERE'S A GREAT DEAL GOING ON THIS CHRISTMAS

By FRANCES GIBB

Guy Eskill, Ms Railton's solicitor, said: "Unless she can raise money to take out insur-

Tanya, who is in a wheelchair with a displaced hip and curvature of the spine, is looked after by a full-time carer. She has been confined to home since she was 11. A damages award would provide the equipment to improve her quality of life, plus ensure her care for the future. "Otherwise I will just have to sit back and watch her get worse," Ms Rajton said.



**By MICHAEL HORSNELL**

Mr Debabrata Chatterjee, 58, a GP and part-time consultant surgeon, is accused of serious professional misconduct at the General Medical Council in London. He allegedly ordered Dr Francis Tierney out of the theatre at Dalisburgh Hospital in South Uist in the Western Isles, and told nurses that if he did not leave they could order an air ambulance to take the patient to Glasgow.

Linda Dobbs, counsel for the GMC, said that on July 8, 1994, the mother was taken to the hospital when her waters broke and a midwife at her



Meanwhile, Sister Muriel MacLeod telephoned Dr Tierney, a GP and part-time anaesthetist, to call him to assist if necessary in a vaginal breech delivery. He was met at the main door by the sister who told him that she had

Dr Tierney went to a consulting room to change. There he found Mr Chatterjee, and an exchange of words culminated in Mr Chatterjee saying:

The operation was performed by Mr Chatterjee. Dr Tierney then received a message from a nurse to go into the theatre, where he found the baby was not breathing. It took 15 minutes for Dr Tierney to get his lungs working and resuscitate her.

Dr Tierney said the atmosphere between them had always been professional, but the relationship was strained. Mr Chatterjee has since been dismissed by the Western Isles Health Board and lost a case at an industrial tribunal. The hearing continues.

## BY STEPHEN FARRELL

Jasper claimed that his employers, the Galtee Deer Farm

Anthony Probert, 58, of Abergavenny, was fined earlier this year after the RSPCA discovered the animal in a weak and emaciated condition in a field near Abergavenny. The hearing was adjourned for a month.

10.

## THE BIG NETWORK.

[illegible]



## Over-30s have less chance of test-tube baby, say scientists

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

TEST-TUBE baby treatment cannot turn back the clock for ageing women, researchers have found.

Success rates for *in vitro* fertilisation plummet as women age, because of effects on the egg and the womb. Women over 35 have a sharply reduced chance of conceiving artificially, as do those who try the natural way. A study of 37,000 cycles of IVF treatment carried out in Britain up to 1994 showed that success rates were highest for women aged 30 and under.

Much of the attention given to *in vitro* fertilisation has focused on the skill of individual specialists and the success of different techniques. But Allan Templeton and colleagues in the University of Aberdeen's obstetrics and gynaecology department say that the characteristics of the couples seeking treatment are equally important.

The researchers examined the records of all IVF treatments carried out in Britain from 1991. The overall success rate per IVF treatment was 14 per cent but women aged 30 and under were more likely to succeed. The highest success rates were 17 per cent for those aged 30 and 16 per cent for those aged 25. By the age of 35 the rate falls to 14 per cent but then drops steeply to 7 per cent at 40 and 2 per cent at 45. The

Cervical cancer may be going undetected because smears taken from women are inadequate for making a diagnosis. Peter Sasieni, a scientist at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, says. Figures showed that more than one in three cervical smears in some parts of the country were rejected, partly because of poor smear-taking. Of 4.5 million smears in 1994-95, more than 350,000 were rejected. Rates varied among 183 laboratories from 0.2 per cent to more than 35 per cent.

latest figures show that in 1994 more than 10,000 cycles of treatment were given to women over 35.

The researchers, writing in *The Lancet*, say they found that older women could significantly improve their chances by using a donated egg. In Britain, regulations require that women who donate eggs are 35 or under. There was still a downward trend in success rates among women over 30 using donated eggs, suggesting an ageing effect on the womb making it less receptive.

Women who had been pregnant before, especially those

who had had a previous child by IVF, had a greater chance. The cause of infertility did not seem to affect a woman's chances of success but with each failure of IVF her chances diminished.

In a commentary on the study, Marsden Wagner, a specialist from Copenhagen, said that the introduction of new techniques since 1994, such as the microscopic injection of sperm into the egg, were unlikely to have influenced the success rates.

Abortions on women living in England and Wales rose by 6.7 per cent in the first quarter of the year, following last year's scare over the Pill. It was the highest level since 1991. Family planning experts believe that thousands stopped taking the Pill after a warning from the Government's Committee on the Safety of Medicines that some low-dose versions could double the risk of a potentially fatal blood clot.

The Government came under fire at the time for releasing the research without first alerting GPs.

An American team has tracked down a gene that predisposes men to prostate cancer, the third commonest form of cancer in males. The discovery may eventually help to identify individuals at risk and develop treatment.

## Accident-prone hospitals cost the health service £150m a year

MORE than a million accidents happen in NHS hospitals each year, costing £150 million to treat, according to the first investigation into safety standards.

The investigation by the National Audit Office found that most NHS trusts were failing to meet health and safety standards laid down in law. The study, which examined 30 NHS hospitals over

eight weeks, found that 75 per cent of accidents involved patients or visitors. Most suffered minor injuries in slips, trips and falls, although some had broken bones and head cuts. Inpatients were particularly vulnerable because they could be disorientated by drug treatment.

The report said that hospital managers could do more to reduce risks by providing non-

slip flooring, improving cleaning techniques and urging training staff to be more safety conscious.

Staff most commonly suffered injuries from hypodermic needles and back problems caused by lifting patients and equipment. Of the 30 hospitals visited, 23 complied with less than half of the health and safety rules on manual handling.



One of Hodder's stairwells at Salford University

## Architecture's outsider on stairway to success

By MARCUS BINNEY

A YOUNG outsider has beaten the rising stars and established names of British architecture to win the £20,000 prize for the Royal Institute of British Architects' Building of the Year.

The new Stirling prize, sponsored by *The Sunday Times*, is intended as architecture's answer to the Turner and Booker prizes. Bookmakers had quoted Sir Michael Hopkins's Queen's Building at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, as 11-10 favourite.

However the judges chose differently, awarding the prize to Stephen Hodder of Manchester for the centenary building at Salford University, which houses the design faculty, prompting the comment from RIBA: "Red brick has beaten Oxbridge."

Owen Luder, the institute's president and one of the judges, said: "It is low cost, fast build and an excellent example of what architects do best: making three dimensional use of space."

"It is a building that invites you to explore. Wherever you walk you get a different vista." *The Architects' Journal* recently described Mr Hodder as "one of a small posse of uncompromising modernists based in Manchester's Castlefield quarter - part of the region's Britpack", praising his pursuit of the rational, minimal and modern.

Initially the £3.5 million centenary building was intended to house the schools of electronics engineering and industrial design. But before he knew it, Mr Hodder was building for the design faculty.

The striking bowed front now contains lecture rooms and studios while inside a gorge-like atrium, overlooked by galleries and crisscrossed by bridges, runs through the building.

Mr Luder continued: "The Hodder building lifts a whole rundown area, providing an example for others to follow. In the Eighties, some



Hodder: modernist

new buildings wanted to use every material under the sun." By contrast, Mr Hodder's design is strongly monochrome, using stainless steel panels and glass to create reflections and refractions.

According to *The Architects' Journal*: "The user has an acute awareness of weather conditions" which not everyone would consider a

plus in Salford. The staggered sawn-off back of the building may also be seen by some as a revival of the hated brutalism of the Sixties rather than as an essay in today's fashionable deconstruction.

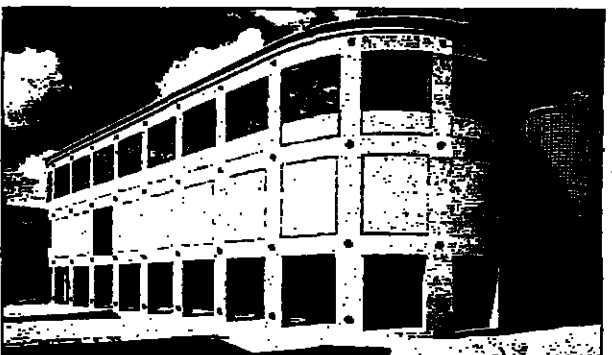
Mr Hodder, 40, "is young for an architect", RIBA said. Though little known outside architectural circles, he has won an award for an eye-catching swimming pool at Colne in Lancashire and has made a name designing small modern surgeries for general practitioners.

Both Sir Norman Foster and Lord Rogers of Riverside were eliminated at an early stage of this year's awards but Sir Michael Hopkins remained favourite with his Emmanuel College building, which had already won the Royal Fine Art Commission/BSkyB Building of the Year award this summer.

As well as Mr Luder, the judges were Sir Anthony Caro, the sculptor, and Hugh Pearman, architecture critic of *The Sunday Times*.



Centenary Building at Salford University, above, which beat the Queen's Building, Cambridge

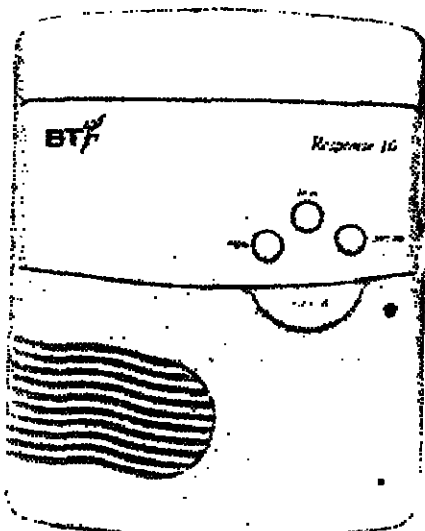


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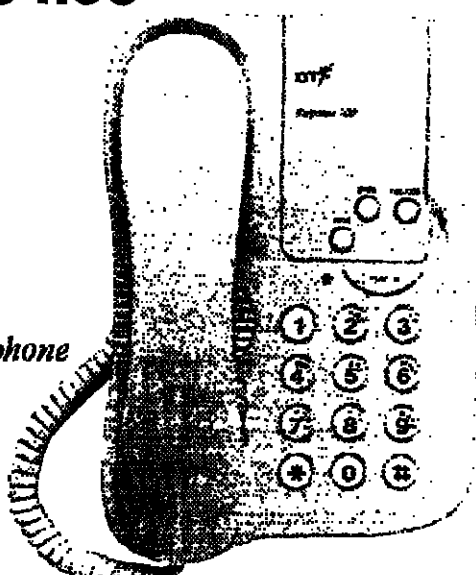
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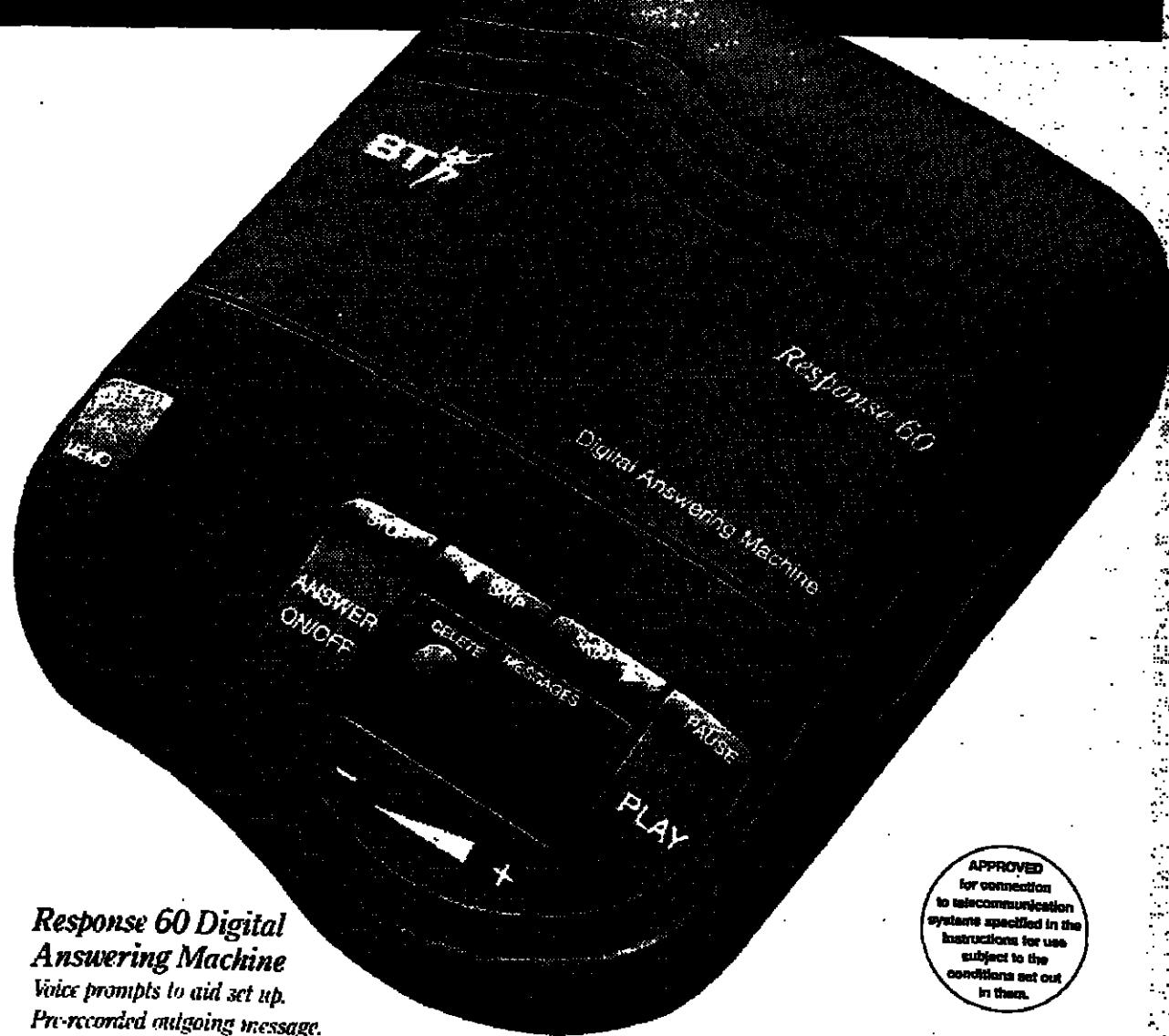
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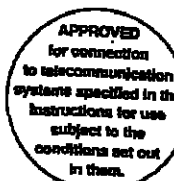
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## Term-time jobs put more money into students' pockets

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

STUDENTS today have a higher income than those who studied at the end of the 1980s, according to an independent report that dismisses claims that thousands live in poverty. It found that an increasing number were taking jobs during term-time.

The survey by the Policy Studies Institute found that only mature students had less money in real terms than the class of 1988-89. Those under 26 had a higher income and more than a third did not take out a student loan.

However, the study, sponsored by the Department for Education and Employment, acknowledged that the improvement in income had come at a price. Today's students were deeper in debt and worked longer hours in part-time employment than their predecessors.

Claire Callender and Elaine Kempson, the report's authors, said that the apparently manageable financial position

of most students masked areas of hardship. Lone parents in particular were finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet and owed ten times more than the average student. The average student received £3,615 from all sources in 1995-96, but spent £5,091. The gap was bridged by student loans, commercial credit and delayed payment of bills.

The report said that the amount received in grants, student loans and parental contributions roughly covered essential costs such as accommodation, food and course expenses. But students spent more than £2,500 on other items, such as entertainment. More than £500 was spent on alcohol and tobacco, but this was no higher than other low-income young people.

The proportion of income from grants had fallen since the last survey, but families had stepped in to meet part of the shortfall. Eight out of ten

students received gifts from their parents and relatives. Most students took holiday jobs and a growing proportion also worked during terms. Students earned an average of £162 during the Christmas and Easter breaks, and £712 during the summer holiday.

Dr Callender said: "Although students are better off in real terms than they were in the late Eighties, they are having to find jobs and borrow large sums in order to complete their courses."

The survey, based on almost 2,000 students' expenditure diaries, was dismissed by the National Union of Students. Douglas Trainer, the president, said: "If students have so much money, why do nearly 70 per cent work part-time to the detriment of their degree results?"

Student Finances, £16.95, from BEBC Distribution, 01202 715555.

Education, page 39



Sheena Rae was taunted by girls jealous of her hair

## Bullied girl's cry for help wins place in poetry book

By DAVID CHARTER

A SCHOOLGIRL who wrote a poem about the bullying she suffered has won praise in a competition for writers of all ages. Sheena Rae, 13, was taunted by girls jealous of her waist-length hair and turned to poetry when a counsellor advised her to put her feelings down on paper.

Her relatives were so impressed that they encouraged her to enter the poem, *Being Bullied*, in a contest run by the International Society of Poets. It reached the semi-finals and has been published in the society's latest anthology of poems, *Voices in the Wind*.

Gloria Feist, a spokeswoman for the society, said: "The words spell out clearly what it is like to be picked on at school. They are really a cry for help."

Miss Rae, of Sotherton, near Halesworth, Suffolk, wrote the poem last year when she was at Halesworth Middle School. The bullying stopped after she moved to Bungay High School, Suffolk, this term.

Last month Vijay Singh Shahry, 13, was found hanged at his home in

Manchester after being praised at school for his writing about bullying. An inquest will be held into his death in the new year.

Miss Rae said: "Although I never got beaten up, I was always being picked on and called names. One girl used to taunt me and got her friends to do the same. They made comments about me all the time and things went missing from my bag. It made me really unhappy and at times I wished I was dead. I was starting to believe what they said about me being no good as a person. As English is my

best subject, I decided to write a poem about what it was like. It was a good way of getting it off my chest. I sent the poem off after my grandmother saw a competition entry form in a magazine, but I never imagined it would do very well. I just hope that it may make bullies think twice before they pick on others."

Her mother, Patricia, said: "When I saw the poem I was quite knocked back. It made me realise just how much she had been suffering. She has got lovely, long, blonde hair and I think other girls were jealous of her."

### BEING BULLIED

Why do you bully me?  
Leave me alone.  
Can't you hear me saying  
go away?  
But you have your same  
story every day.  
Another name or a word  
that is said  
Gets bottled up inside my  
head.  
I won't tell a teacher, but I  
tell my mum and dad  
The words that you say

make my life dull and sad.  
Do you have fun watching  
my tears?  
Do you laugh over my  
fears?  
You and I know what  
makes me cry.  
You and I know what makes  
me wish I would die.  
A little message to the  
bullies out there.  
Leave me alone 'cause it  
just isn't fair.

## Adverts don't sell say whiz-kids who lost their spark

By CAROL MIDDLELEY

FEWER than a third of advertising executives believe their campaigns help to sell products, a survey has revealed. Instead they are plagued by self-doubt and insecurity, and dream of giving it all up for another career.

In spite of their "whiz-kid" image, the survey of 600 advertising employees from 50 agencies found the industry weary from overwork. More than half use drugs or know a colleague who does.

Forty per cent of women said sex discrimination was rife and 73 per cent described advertising as a "terrible career" for working mothers, because of its unpredictability and 12-hour days.

Although spending on advertising by Britain's leading 100 companies has increased by 15 per cent on last year, only 28 per cent of advertising employees were prepared to say that they genuinely believed the campaigns were effective.

Dominic Mills, editorial director of the industry's trade magazine *Campaign*, which conducted the survey, said: "We knew that people were down but we didn't realise it was this bad. This is an industry plagued by self-

doubt. The Eighties image of the glibulous ad executive in red glasses and braces is no more. What this survey reflects is a high level of insecurity. Advertising is a very fragile business and confidence is everything."

"It is staggering to think that so many people in advertising believe their efforts are falling short of the mark but this is clearly what people privately think. There is an element of them shooting themselves in the foot by admitting this but part of it can be blamed on frustration, with many advertisers requesting safe solutions. The London advertising scene used to be among the most innovative in the world."

Mr Mills said that between 1990 and 1992, a fifth of people in the advertising industry lost their jobs. Asked what job they would most like to do instead, the survivors said they would become barristers, writers, actors or artists. Forty-four per cent are Labour voters, 38 per cent Conservative and 10 per cent Lib Dem.

Salaries ranged from £750,000 for shooting commercials and £159,000 for a creative director to juniors on £8,000.

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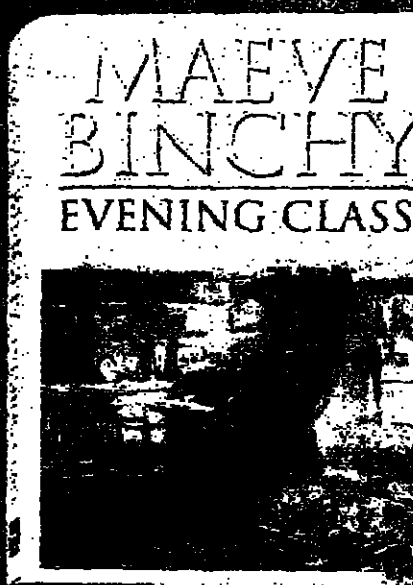
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**FREEPHONE today 0500 18 18 18. Expose Canada's Shame.**

Source: 1995 United Nations World Wildlife Fund Report. \*\*Source: 1995 United Nations World Wildlife Fund Report. \*\*\*Source: 1995 United Nations World Wildlife Fund Report. \*\*Source: 1995 United Nations World Wildlife Fund Report. \*\*\*Source: 1995 United Nations World Wildlife Fund Report.

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## Courts may order ten-year-olds to wear electronic tags

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

JUVENILES as young as ten could be issued with electronic tags under government proposals to keep offenders off the streets and away from football matches.

The plan extends the existing tagging scheme to the 10 to 15-year age group and would make it part of curfew orders. Offenders could have to wear the tags at school, at night and on weekends.

However, probation officers said it would do nothing to deal with the root causes of offending or antisocial behaviour, while Paul Cavadino of the Penal Affairs Consortium said tags could become a "badge of honour" that would incite rather than deter.

David Maclean, a Home Office Minister, said tagging linked to a curfew order would be an effective punishment. "We believe that curfew orders could be an effective way of keeping young offenders off the streets or away from places such as shopping centres and football matches where they may get up to no good."

"It would punish them by restricting their freedom and help to prevent them from reoffending. Electronic tagging will detect immediately whether the offender is breaking the curfew," he said.

Mr Maclean said that

young offenders could be forced to stay at home at night or at certain times during the weekend and could also be required to be at school during classroom hours.

Under the proposal, produced as an amendment to the Crime (Sentences) Bill, Youth Courts would be able to impose the order for between two and twelve hours a day. The maximum length of the order would be three months. It would be piloted in some areas before a decision to adopt it nationally.

The announcement came after the Government was thrown on the defensive by an Audit Commission report condemning the juvenile justice system as inefficient and ineffective.

Mr Cavadino said tagging was one of the worst ideas yet to tackle juvenile crime. "These young people will have to attend school with the tag attached to their wrist or ankle, branding them as an offender," he said. "Some children will undoubtedly boast about their tag and wear it as a badge of honour, adopting a 'hard' image to live up to."

Harry Fletcher of the National Association of Probation Officers said tagging would humiliate young offenders

and do nothing to address the cause of antisocial behaviour. "The Government has failed to deal with youth crime. The introduction of tags for 10 to 15-year-olds is ample testimony to that failure," he said. "It appears to have run out of constructive ideas."

Trials involving the electronic tagging of offenders aged 16 and over have been operating since July last year in Greater Manchester, Berkshire and Norfolk.

A total of 230 offenders have been given curfew orders, of which 98 have been completed, 90 are under way and 27 were breached and the offender returned to court. A further three orders were quashed on appeal and two were void.

Charles Rose, managing director of Geographix, the company involved in the Norfolk pilot project, said his firm would be interested in extending the trials to the new age group.

□ The maximum penalty for indecent assault on a man by a juvenile offender aged between 10 and 17 is to increase to ten years' detention. At present the maximum is two years' detention for offenders aged 15 to 17. There is no custodial penalty for 10 to 14-year-olds.



Joanne Cholerton, investigative psychologist: "Cracker makes me laugh"

## Don't call me Cracker says new investigator

By A STAFF REPORTER

IT COULD be a plot for a new television series: a woman newly qualified as an investigative psychologist starts working for the police in a northern town. But yesterday Joanne Cholerton was resisting attempts to label her as a bit of a Cracker.

The new recruit has begun helping officers to compile profiles of offenders, but she says that any similarity with the work of the TV psychologist played by Robbie Coltrane ends there. "I do watch Cracker, which makes good drama, but it's not because it has much to do with my work," Miss Cholerton, 23, from Essex, said. "It makes me laugh. Most of the time I'm sitting in front of a computer inputting data and doing statistics."

Her only link with Cracker is that Derek Carter, her professor at Liverpool University, is mentioned in the books that spawned the series. Rather than hunting serial killers face-to-face, she will be analysing data on Hartlepool's burglars.

The force says its offender-profiling programme is unique in Britain. Detective Chief Inspector Ray Mallon said: "Joanne will not be directly involved. She will basically supply ammunition for detectives to catch the criminals."

## 40% of fire emergency calls are a false alarm

By IAN MURRAY

FOUR out of ten 999 calls to report fires are false alarms — nearly a third of them malicious — and a declining number of firemen are having to cope with an increasing number of incidents.

The figures from Cifa, the public accountancy association, illustrate the strain put on fire services by an average of 1,300 false alarms a day, particularly in inner city and industrial areas.

The problem is greatest in Cleveland, where the potential risk from chemical industries means that the service is allocated more money per head of population than any other. The brigade is called out on average ten times a day by malicious calls and as many times again by alarms set off by over-sensitive monitors. The malicious call-out rate per head of population in Cleveland is almost three times the national average.

Malicious calls are also high in Merseyside, where the fire service has to put out proportionately more fires than in any other major city. In Birmingham there are 35 malicious calls a day and in Manchester 27.

The number of callouts nationally has grown by 6 per cent from 1,085,519 to 1,148,152 a year while the number of fire personnel has fallen from 63,517 to 62,837.

## Church finds enemy who became friend

By JOHN SHAW

A CHURCH'S older parishioners always remembered the moving sound of German prisoners of war singing their own *Silent Night* at midnight mass as they shared Christmas with their British captors.

As the war ended, an unknown POW left behind a 3ft carved statue of St Joseph and Jesus as a gift for the villagers of North Walsham, Norfolk. For more than half a century, the treasure figure has stood at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, with no knowledge of its artist.

Now the two sides have made contact again after a chance discovery. The figure was being sent away for treatment for woodworm when it was turned upside down, revealing a label giving the carver's name and prison number.

Cathy Bateman, a member of the church, led the detective work that identified Adolph Benz, prisoner 1048441 in Camp 82 at nearby Worsled. She wrote to the German Embassy and the military

archive in Berlin traced Herr Benz, 38, who lives at Gaggenau, near the spa town of Baden-Baden.

He has written to the church saying he was honoured that the statue was still treasured. He remembered carving the figure at the camp after a visit from a priest. "One day a priest came to us with a small figure of St Joseph," he said. "With that in mind, I started working on the big statue, trying to give St Joseph the face of a kindly father. It is really impressive that after such a long time the members of the church still think of the person who carved this in thanksgiving for the end of the war."

Mrs Bateman, who is retired, said: "Finding out about Mr Benz is a great joy."

□ A reconnaissance photograph taken by a German spy plane has been used to prove that a footpath at Shipton Gorge, near Bridport, Dorset, was in use during the war, defeating a landowner's objection to public access.

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T03



# Tories cannot help you, Labour tells tax lobby firms

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

LABOUR mounted a vigorous defence of its planned windfall tax yesterday, warning the privatised utilities against trying to avoid it by "climbing into bed" with the Tories.

Alastair Darling, Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, seized on reports that Michael Heseltine was backing the establishment of a lobby group of privatised companies that are intent on undermining Labour's tax policy.

Winding up after a Commons debate in which the Deputy Prime Minister had led the attack on the windfall tax, Mr Darling claimed that the Tories were hand-in-glove with the privatised industries.

"The debate has shown that

Mr Heseltine is a prisoner of the 'privileged' few on the boards of utilities," Mr Darling said. "No sensible industry would contemplate climbing into bed with a campaign of this sort."

Plans for the lobby group are said to be co-ordinated by Sir Colin Marshall, chairman of British Airways and president of the Confederation of British Industry. Sir Colin has invited about 80 privatised companies to a breakfast meeting in London next month, with the aim of forming a group dedicated to promoting the benefits of privatisation.

But the group is expected to look at measures to avoid paying the windfall tax, which

Labour hopes will raise up to £5 billion to help to put the young unemployed back to work. Some of the privatised utilities have already given warning that they would take legal action against a Labour government.

Last night Labour aides confirmed that British Airways would be liable for the windfall tax if it was deemed to have made excess profits. They also said that experts had advised the party that any legal challenge would fail.

John Prescott, deputy Labour leader, told MPs that the levy would be applied to all privatised utilities that had gained excess profits. "All privatised utilities will be considered as candidates for the levy without fear or favour."

After Tory taunts that Labour would not provide details, Mr Prescott emphasised that it would be a one-off levy. But aides of Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, later said that although each company would know its liability after a Labour government's first Budget the tax could be paid in instalments.

Earlier Mr Heseltine and Mr Prescott clashed over the dangers and merits of a windfall tax. Mr Heseltine, who was less combative than usu-



al, urged his opponent to say which companies would have to pay and how much.

He pointed out that ten million shareholders had pension and insurance policies based on extensive investment in the utilities. The tax was bound to lead to rising prices or loss of jobs, or both. "Labour wants to punish all of

us — everyone with a phone, with a gas bill, an electricity bill, a water bill."

Mr Prescott said: "The reality is that privatised utilities were sold off cheaply and regulated weakly, deliberately to allow the City to make a financial killing... Independent experts confirm that the levy can be raised from excess

profits without passing on the cost to customers."

He accused Mr Heseltine of "weeping crocodile tears for the taxpayer, the shareholder, the pensioner". But he had presided over 22 tax rises and was in a government that had broken the link between pensions and earnings to fund tax cuts for the better-off.

# Time to review Britain's dated electoral ways

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Referendums are becoming part of British constitutional practice on a scale that would have been unimaginable a few years ago. But party promises to hold referendums have run well ahead of any agreement about how they should be run.

Potential problems have been underlined by Sir James Goldsmith's campaign for a European referendum: how should the question be framed? This gap has been filled by a new report from an independent, cross-party commission set up by the Constitution Unit and the Electoral Reform Society. The Commission has established an important niche as a shadow civil service in its assessments of how reform could be implemented. Yesterday's report on *The Conduct of Referendums* has far-reaching implications for politics which go well beyond its dry-sounding title.

There has so far been only one nationwide referendum, in June 1975 on membership of the European Community, though there have been separate ones in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. That was, at the time and until recently, regarded as exceptional. But now all three main parties have proposed holding a referendum before Britain could join a single currency, while Labour has proposed referendums on whether the electoral system for the Commons should change and at least four separate ones on devolution and a strategic authority for London. The Liberal Democrats back some, though not all, of these specific proposals and, in general, are committed to the use of referendums on important issues.

So we may be deluged by referendums, at least in the first 18 months of a new government. The commission, chaired by Sir Patrick Nairne, an eminent former permanent secretary, proposes a series of sensible guidelines about how to achieve proper balance, information, length of campaigns and nature of questions. Most are not contentious but some, such as ensuring that any threshold should be set as a percentage of votes cast rather than of the

eligible electorate, would avoid the bitterness left by the 1979 Scottish referendum. But if referendums are to become more frequent, should a permanent new framework be created? Most politicians are wary of making referendums too easy and are dubious about suggestions that they could be authorised merely through secondary legislation without a lengthy debate, rather than by a full-scale new Bill. These doubts will have been reinforced by the Government's crass mishandling of the European directives on monetary union. By resisting a debate on the floor of the Commons, ministers have maximised opposition and turned an issue of importance, though mainly of interest to the sceptics, into one of the rights of MPs — a self-inflicted and avoidable row.

A generic referendum Act could, however, set up a permanent organisational framework, leaving the political matters about questions to be decided on each occasion. A referendum commission has obvious attractions, but even better would be a permanent electoral commission, as exists in many other democracies and is backed by the main opposition parties here. A Hansard Society report a few years ago proposed that such a commission should take over the present diffuse responsibility for running elections — boundary reviews, allocating broadcasting time and monitoring party accounts. Such a commission is long overdue, especially if it took an interest in party fundraising and adverts.

British elections have for long been conducted through 19th century laws intended to stamp out corruption and by informal understandings. As with so much else in politics, these checks no longer apply. If there are to be more innovations, such as referendums, a clearer statutory framework is even more necessary — administered in an open way by an independent commission.

PETER RIDDELL

# Brown's reply to 'Tory lies' reveals shifts in policy

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

GORDON BROWN'S line-by-line rebuttal of the Tories' tax and spend charges revealed more about Labour's policy than the draft manifesto programme that it published this summer.

Over the past two years Labour has made a number of policy changes, several of which have not been formally announced by the Labour leadership, or published in policy documents.

Labour's last health document, *Renewing the NHS*, stated categorically that Labour would scrap both compulsory competitive tendering in the health service and private finance for NHS capital projects. Previous papers had suggested that Labour would phase out private beds and recreate a regional structure. Labour's rebuttal document on Wednesday made clear that all these policies have been abolished.

The paper says: "There are no plans to phase out private provision in the NHS." It also dismisses as a "lie" Tory claims that Labour intends to end compulsory competitive tendering in the NHS. "The truth is that Labour has no objections to fair comparisons between public service and private sector provision."

It is more vague about Tory claims that it will abolish compulsory competitive tendering in local government. "The truth is that Labour is committed to securing best value — a combination of both price and quality — in public services."

The Tory document quoted a statement from Harriet Harman in April, when she was Shadow Health Secretary, expressing her opposition to private finance in the NHS. In its rebuttal, Labour said that it had no objection to private finance for capital projects, citing a comment made by Mr Harman in June. It also made clear that Labour has no intention of reintroducing a regional health structure, and dismisses as a "lie" that it intends to spend more on funding community care, or on rights for disabled people. Plans for the disabled would involve merging the present budgets of the National Advisory Council on the Employment of People with Disabilities and the National Disability Council.

The document also says that Labour will not abolish the Jobseeker's Allowance, an unemployment benefit payable

for only six months compared with the 12 months of the benefit it replaces. Labour originally opposed this.

But one of its most revealing admissions is on nursery places. Labour's original policy to secure a nursery place for all children aged three and four has been weakened. David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, told the party conference last month that Labour would offer nursery places to all four-year-olds and set targets to provide

places for those three-year-olds whose parents wanted them to attend. Now the party says: "The truth is Labour will provide a nursery place for all four-year-olds using funds from the nursery vouchers scheme."

Sources close to David Blunkett said that the rebuttal document had not been cleared with him. An aide said there would be targets for three-year-olds but they would not be set until provision had been made for four-year-olds.

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Blunkett: sources say he was not consulted

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# More than 50 Holocaust Nazis traced in Canada

FROM QUENTIN LETTIS IN NEW YORK

A NEW YORK-based private detective yesterday claimed to have taped confessions from 33 alleged former Nazis in Canada, many of whom appeared to be guilty of actively taking part in the Holocaust.

Steve Rambam, a bullish private eye who has worked for the US Government, said that he posed as a history professor from a non-existent college in Belize and went knocking on the doors of former German soldiers who are now living in Canada. He secretly tape-recorded their conversations.

Mr Rambam claims that what he found was the equivalent of the communities of old Nazis who fled to South America after the Second World War.

His claims, broadcast in Jerusalem yesterday on Israeli television and to be detailed in today's *Jerusalem Post*, were attacked by one leading Jewish group as "mock heroics" but are likely to revive debate about official attitudes by past Canadian governments to former members of Hitler's armed forces.

Mr Rambam claimed that he found several of the alleged war criminals living in predominantly Jewish neighbourhoods of Montreal and Ottawa. One man, who talked openly about killing Jews in the war, was renting out the top floor of his house to a young rabbi and his family.



Hitler: hidden disciples

"They must think it is a good place to hide," he said. Of 62 people he approached, only four denied their wartime identities, and seven gave detailed accounts of personal involvement in the deaths of Jews, he claimed.

Renata Skotnicka-Zadzman, a leading member of Canada's Jewish community, reacted to the story with shock yesterday. "We have suspected that there were a lot of them, but oh my God," she said, on hearing where the suspects lived.

Mr Rambam, 39, added that many of the names of the suspects had long been known to the leading Nazi-hunting organisation, the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, but to his surprise they had not acted.

The Toronto branch of the Wiesenthal organisation last night agreed that it had known many names, but ac-

Germany will keep open its investigation centre for Nazi war crimes for as long as there are cases to be prosecuted. Ulrich Goll, the Justice Minister for Baden-Württemberg, said, "The 16 federal states had decided at a Bonn meeting to maintain the centre near Stuttgart."

The centre's future was in doubt because the number of Nazi trials has fallen and Albert Stein, a former director, died this year. (Reuters)

Mr Rambam started his investigation with a list of 1,000 names. He discovered that 40 were dead, but he has already managed to trace 250 of what he calls "the worst cases".

One of Mr Rambam's interviewees, Antanas Kenstavičius of Hope, British Columbia, is facing deportation from Canada for alleged war crimes while police chief in Svencionys, Lithuania, in the early 1940s.

Mr Rambam, posing as

Professor Salvatore Romano of the University of the Americas in Belize and accompanied by two Israeli journalists, interviewed Mr Kenstavičius.

According to a tape produced by Mr Rambam, Mr Kenstavičius described the shooting of numerous Jews in Ignalina, Lithuania, during a six-day period. "Bang! And they fall down," he appears to say on the tape in his broken English. "Some time, repeat. Bang, bang! And they all fall in ditch. All the day. After, there're no men. Than the women in separate camp. Separate barracks. The kids go with the wives."

Some of the men, apparently not suspecting that "Professor Romano" was anything but genuine, posed for photographs beside their wartime uniforms and provided yellowing snapshots of themselves in the 1940s.

Jewish groups have long criticised past Canadian governments for allegedly accommodating, or at least not prosecuting, former Nazis.

LI Rome: A military judge yesterday ordered the release from house arrest of Karl Hass, 84, a former SS major suspected of involvement in the massacre of 335 men and boys at the Ardeatine Caves outside Rome in March 1944, and ruled that his case should instead be considered by the civil judiciary. (Reuters)



The advertisement promotes a weekend to Paris for those "with nothing to do" — a Bob Dole remark after his poll defeat

## Jobless Dole flies flag for the French

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE said if he failed to win the White House he would just go home, but his losing campaign has led to another role — battling for Air France.

A photograph of Mr Dole, smiling and waving, appeared in advertisements for the airline in six major American newspapers yesterday. The ironically succinct headline asks: "Not doing anything?" The text promoted low fares from the United

States for a long weekend in Paris. It said: "If you have a little extra time on your hands, there's never been a better reason for a getaway to Paris..."

The idea was inspired by the comment Mr Dole made in his concession speech after losing his presidential bid. He said: "Tomorrow will be the first time in my life I don't have anything to do."

Alan Blum, president of a New York advertising agency, nervously sent his idea to Washington, seeking permission to use it. Word came back the advertise-

ment was on Mr Dole's desk and he was laughing. Better still, he was happy to go along with the joke.

Mr Dole and his wife, Elizabeth, turned down free round-trip tickets to Paris on Concorde, not part of the special offer to the public, as payment. Instead they asked that a donation of \$3,000 (£1,800) be made to their favourite charity, which provides housing and day care for the low-income elderly in Washington. The sum was extremely modest, given the spin-off publicity for Air France.

## German fury over Iran death threats

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY, Europe's main champion of "critical dialogue" with Iran, was yesterday close to abandoning its conciliatory policies after death threats against German prosecutors.

The dispute between Tehran and Bonn has become poisonous. Every day this week about 1,000 supporters of the radical Hezbollah group have besieged the German Embassy in Tehran; almost 300 German expatriates in the country have been advised to stay at home.

The latest threat comes from clerics in the holy Iranian city of Qom, who said that the German prosecutors should be condemned in the same way as Salman Rushdie, the novelist, unless they apologised to Iran.

Prosecutors in Berlin have accused the Iranian regime of steering a hit team that murdered three Kurdish dissident leaders in a restaurant in the city. The verdict is due in January and the Iranian Government is clearly trying to

exert as much pressure as it can to secure the acquittal of the five defendants.

But the efforts have backfired. Carl-Dieter Spranger, the Development Minister, yesterday became the first German Cabinet minister to call publicly for an end to "critical dialogue". He said: "Iran's state terrorism against those who think differently has once again emerged as a result of this trial. The death threats against representatives of German justice are intolerable and show how the Tehran regime tramples on human rights. This removes any basis for so-called critical dialogue."

This policy, agreed at the Edinburgh summit in 1992, was aimed at keeping lines of communication open with Tehran and using that leverage to gain human rights concessions. Yet very little seems to have been achieved: the fatwa against Rushdie remains in force, and there are no signs of Iran restraining militant groups.

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**PARKINSON-COWAN** 50cm Slot-in Gas Cooker

Separate oven and grill

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Single oven with 4 sealed burners

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Was £299.99

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**EXTRA SAVING**

**STOVES** 50cm Slot-in Gas Cooker

Single oven with 4 sealed burners

Model 5000N

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**VOUCHER PRICE**

**£139.99**

6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION\*

## FREE SAUCEPANS SALE

**BEKO** 50cm Slot-in Electric Cooker

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**EXTRA SAVING**

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Separate oven and grill

Model 511C

Was £279.99

**VOUCHER PRICE**

**£269.99**

6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION\*

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Separate oven and grill

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**VOUCHER PRICE**

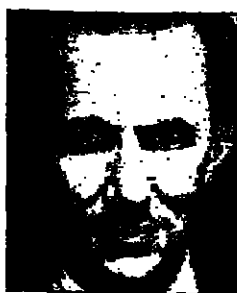
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Consumer spend highest since 1991

Insurers fear in fidelity po

INSIDE  
SECTION  
**2**  
TODAY



## ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky  
on how to raise  
£5bn in extra taxes  
PAGE 31



## ARTS

Prince's new album  
shows a regal  
return to form  
PAGES 41-44



## SPORT

Becker mixes  
power with a  
touch of glory  
PAGES 45-52

TELEVISION  
AND  
RADIO  
PAGES  
50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22 1996



Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, offered a tantalising glimpse of plans for the Budget yesterday. They went back in the famous red case until Tuesday

## Safeway store openings to create 5,200 jobs

By Sarah Cunningham

SAFeway, the supermarket chain that cut its staff numbers 18 months ago, is to create 5,200 jobs through its store opening programme, the company said yesterday. Since cutting about 5,000 jobs, the company has added 3,200 to its pay roll. After the new round of hirings, which will take place over two years, it expects to have added a net 3,000 staff over a three-year period. This will take its total number of staff to more than 70,000. Around 65 per cent of the new jobs being created will be part-time.

This was in line with an announcement earlier this month by Marks & Spencer that it is creating 2,000 new

positions. By contrast Kwik Save, the discount supermarket chain, has revealed plans to shed 1,900 staff.

Safeway, which in profit terms is the third largest supermarket chain behind Tesco and J Sainsbury and ahead of Asda, is to open ten superstores in the second half of this year, on top of seven opened in the first half. It then aims to open about 15 next year, adding around 450,000 square feet in total.

The company yesterday reported an 7 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £228 million in the six months ended October 12.

This was in line with City expectations but nonetheless triggered some upgraded forecasts, with UBS shifting from

£430 million to £440 million for the full year and NatWest Markets also upping its forecast to £440 million from £432.5 million.

Safeway's like-for-like sales grew 5.1 per cent - close to the sector average - while sales from new space added a further 5.2 per cent growth, taking total sales to £3.5 billion. The petrol price war, which has now abated, knocked £10 million of forecast profits.

In the first five weeks of the second half, like-for-like sales were 5 per cent ahead. The company said food inflation in the period has been subdued but said it considered the second half had started well.

Colin Smith, chief executive, said that after a trial at its

Reigate store, the Safeway self payment system which allows customers to pay for goods without queuing at tills is to be rolled out to all the 100 stores fitted with its Shop & Go system. Shop & Go is designed to speed the shopping process by allowing customers to scan and register the price of goods they pick up as they go around the store. Mr Smith said that there had been less theft than the company had feared resulting from the scheme.

The company is running a trial in Basildon, Essex, of a convenience store at a BP station. The joint venture set up by the two companies plans to open on some 100 sites within three years.

Gross margins, excluding petrol, were 0.1 per cent down

in the first half and remain under pressure because of the company's response to competitors' price campaigns, such as Tesco's Unbeatable Value. However, efficiency savings meant the net margin was stable at 6.9 per cent.

Sales per square foot reached £14.63, close to the £15 target the company set for itself 18 months ago and which it did not expect to achieve for another 18 months. Safeway's ABC loyalty card has now attracted 5.6 million users, the company revealed.

Earnings per share are 9 per cent ahead at 14.5p while the interim dividend has also been boosted 9 per cent to 4.4p. It is payable on February 10.

Temps, page 27

## MPs attack Rothschild role in coal sell-off

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE all-party Public Accounts Committee yesterday attacked the Department of Trade over the coal sell-off. The MPs also questioned a £2.5 million success fee for NM Rothschild, the merchant bank handling the privatisation, and complained that insolvency investigations into a company involving the brother of the successful bidder were not considered.

The role of Rothschild has already attracted controversy because of the appointment of Lord Wakeham to its board as non-executive director last year. Lord Wakeham was Energy Secretary from 1989 to 1992 when he paved the way for the privatisation of British Coal. He joined Rothschild just six months after leaving the Cabinet. Rothschild was appointed to advise the Government on the future of the coal industry in 1991.

The committee of MPs attacked payments to NM Rothschild, the merchant bank, which received £9.1 million in fees and a £2.5 million success bonus. The conditions for the success bonus were agreed after two conditions had been completed by Rothschild.

The committee expressed concern that the £2.5 million success fee was paid to Rothschild before the completion of the privatisation process. The committee said it was surprised that, at the time the preferred bidder was appointed, the officials in the department who conducted the sale were unaware of the Insolvency Service's investigation. No evidence was found against Richard Budge.

The DTI has since amended its guidelines so that officials are required to check the credentials of bidders for privatisations with the Insolvency Service.

The committee expressed

concern about the lack of fee comparisons between bankers and the structure of the success bonus paid to Rothschild which did not seem to be based on an hourly rate.

Rothschild valued British Coal's three English businesses at between £371 million and £388 million. RJB Mining, which bought all three of the English businesses that British Coal had been split into, paid £815 million, having originally bid £914 million. Although RJB revised down its bid in the process, other unpreferred bidders were not told of this and had no opportunity to enter the race at an advanced stage.

The committee said that RJB had been prepared to pay a higher premium to get all three and that such an approach should have been anticipated.

The DTI was criticised because insolvency investigations mounted against Richard Budge, the head of RJB, were not highlighted by insolvency staff to DTI officials handling the sale. The Insolvency Service, which comes under the DTI, had been investigating Mr Budge for his part in AF Budge, his brother Tony's business. The committee said it was surprised that, at the time the preferred bidder was appointed, the officials in the department who conducted the sale were unaware of the Insolvency Service's investigation. No evidence was found against Richard Budge.

The DTI has since amended its guidelines so that officials are required to check the credentials of bidders for privatisations with the Insolvency Service.

Pennington, page 29

## BUSINESS TODAY

FTSE 100	3853.8	(-9.0)
Yield	4.01%	
FTSE All share	1948.1	(-3.47)
Nikkei	21163.34	(-46.82)
New York	6405.05	(-24.57)
Dow Jones	741.96	(-1.96)
S&P Composite		

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(0 1/4%)
Long Bond	10 1/4%	(0 1/4%)
Yield	6.41%	(0.41%)

Bank Interbank	6 1/4%	(0 1/4%)
3 m bill	11 1/4%	(11 1/4%)
3 m bill	11 1/4%	(11 1/4%)

New York	1.6890	(1.6810)
London	1.6898	(1.6773)
Paris	1.6898	(1.6773)
Frankfurt	1.6898	(1.6773)
Geneva	1.6898	(1.6773)
Zurich	1.6898	(1.6773)
Basel	1.6898	(1.6773)
Brussels	1.6898	(1.6773)
Amsterdam	1.6898	(1.6773)
Stockholm	1.6898	(1.6773)
Copenhagen	1.6898	(1.6773)
Helsinki	1.6898	(1.6773)
Tokyo	1.6898	(1.6773)
Singapore	1.6898	(1.6773)
Manila	1.6898	(1.6773)
Bombay	1.6898	(1.6773)
Calcutta	1.6898	(1.6773)
Rangoon	1.6898	(1.6773)
Colombo	1.6898	(1.6773)
Madras	1.6898	(1.6773)
Batavia	1.6898	(1.6773)
Sourabaya	1.6898	(1.6773)
Manila	1.6898	(1.6773)
Bombay	1.6898	(1.6773)
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Madras	1.6898	(1.6773)
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Sourabaya	1.6898	(1.6773)

London	1.6898	(1.6850)
Paris	1.6898	(1.6850)
Frankfurt	1.6898	(1.6850)
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Brussels	1.6898	(1.6850)
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Colombo	1.6898	(1.6850)
Madras	1.6898	(1.6850)
Batavia	1.6898	(1.6850)
Sourabaya	1.6898	(1.6850)

Brent 15-day (oil)	\$22.85	(\$22.00)
London close	\$376.55	(\$379.15)

\* denotes midday trading price

## Storehouse up

Booming overseas franchise sales and a stronger contribution from British Home Stores helped Storehouse, the retail group, to better than expected results for the first half. Pre-tax profits rose 13 per cent to £37.5 million on turnover ahead by 14 per cent.

Page 28

## Payout cut

Babcock International, the engineering group, is halving its interim dividend payment despite a small recovery in first-half profits. Page 32

## Consumer spending at highest since 1989

By Alasdair Murray

CONSUMER spending is at its highest since 1989, according to data published yesterday, increasing City pressure on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to resist making sweeping tax cuts in next week's Budget.

The revised figures for third-quarter gross domestic product show that quarterly consumer spending increased by 1.1 per cent, taking the annual rate to 3.3 per cent. Separate data, also published yesterday, found that the balance of payments surplus in the second quarter was larger than expected, at £792 million - the strongest trading performance for ten years.

The data sent the pound soaring. Sterling's trade weighted index closed up 0.8 at 92.8 after the pound gained more than a cent against the dollar to close at \$1.6932 and

over two pence against the mark to finish at DM2.5326.

Quarterly GDP growth remained unrevised at 0.8 per cent but annual growth for the third quarter was revised upwards to 2.4 per cent from 2.3 per cent.

Capital investment fell by 2.2 per cent in the third quarter, prompting concern among economists that the gap between consumer demand and investment is widening, increasing the chances of an acceleration in inflation.

There was also a worrying rise in the GDP deflator, a government measure for inflation factored into GDP, which increased to an annual level of 2.9 per cent. But stockbuilding made a positive contribution of 0.2 per cent in the third quarter after destocking knocked 1.2 per cent off GDP in the previous quarter.

## A&L group threatens £100m exit

THE Alliance & Leicester Building Society has accused an action group opposing its plans for conversion of using shock tactics after the group's members threatened to withdraw £100 million of savings (Caroline Merrell writes).

The group, headed by Patrick Mountain, a retired former agent of the society, is objecting to A&L's proposals that most members should get a flat distribution of 250 shares, worth about £1,000. The group wants those with bigger savings to receive more shares.

Mr Mountain claims that 1,200 members are planning to withdraw their savings after the meeting to vote on conversion on December 10. A society spokesman said: "This seems like a pretty mean-spirited action... £1,000 means a great deal to a lot of people."

Pennington, page 29

## Japan closes down commercial bank

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPANESE authorities yesterday closed down an insolvent regional bank crippled by bad loans - the first time an ordinary commercial bank was ordered to halt operations since the war.

Anxious depositors rushed to branches of the Hanwa Bank, a second tier bank based in Osaka and Wakayama prefectures in western Japan, but panic was averted by a government promise that all deposits would be secured.

The Ministry of Finance said it suspended all business at the Hanwa Bank apart from deposit withdrawals because its bad loans had exceeded total capital. The problem loans totalled 190 billion yen (£1 billion), compared with total capital of ¥20.3 billion yen.

The loans piled up during the 1980s' soaring property

prices. With the collapse in land values, Hanwa was saddled with massive loans that were impossible to recover.

Last year Japan suffered its first bank failure since the war when Hyogo Bank became a casualty. Another small regional bank went under this year. Ten credit unions and one credit association have also failed since December 1994.

Hiroshi Mitsuoka, the Finance Minister, said yesterday that Hanwa's failure ought not to cause anxiety about the stability of Japan's financial system overall. He said the bank's operations would be shifted to a new bank for the purpose of winding up Hanwa's business using the deposit insurance system.

Pennington, page 29

## Insurers fear ruling on fidelity policies

By Jon Ashworth

INSURERS have reacted with alarm to an appeal court ruling that threatens to increase dramatically the sums payable under fidelity policies - those which protect against alleged fraud and dishonesty at companies.

The ruling, stemming from the collapse of the late Robert Maxwell's media empire, could lead to insurers paying out to the policy limit for each of a company's subsidiaries, instead of being restricted to one claim. Insurers have been urged to study policy terms.

The alleged plundering of company pension funds featured strongly in the case of New Hampshire Insurance and

others vs Maxwell Communication Corporation (MCC), which turned on fidelity insurance taken out by the company. The appeal court ruling raises the possibility that insurers could be liable for multiple limits of indemnity. It is possible that multiple limits of indemnity may be triggered in cases where policies have been incorrectly worded, or where more than one of the insured has suffered loss.

Alan Fisher, partner in the insurance industry group at Dibb Lupton Alsop, said: "This shows that insurers are vulnerable to multiple liability. There is a costly lesson unfolding in front of their eyes, saying 'get the documents right'."

## Bates bemoans penalty for sparing Hoddle pitch

By Jason Nisbet

GLENN HODDLE, the England football manager, insisted on changes to the redevelopment of Chelsea Football Club's Stamford Bridge ground that cost its parent company, Chelsea Village, at least £15 million, Ken Bates, chairman of Chelsea, said yesterday.

Mr Bates told Chelsea Village's annual meeting that plans to redevelop Stamford Bridge's south and west stands involved reducing the width of the pitch to the minimum allowed by international football regulations.

"Our then manager, Mr Hoddle objected, saying it was not in keeping with the style of play he wanted or

whatever," Mr Bates said, adding that the changes to the plans caused by the extra five metres added to the pitch cost between £15 million and £20 million.

Mr Bates said that Mr Hoddle had since left to manage "some other team", meaning England, "which all goes to show you should not make decisions on short-term considerations".

The Stamford Bridge redevelopment is to cost £60 million. Around £30 million of this is still to be raised; Mr Bates said that he had been approached by a number of investors. Chelsea is building a 160-room hotel, 34 flats, a banqueting suite, shops and offices. "It will be the most overcrowded 12 acres in the world," said Mr Bates.

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27 Nov 1996



# Manufacturing is on the mend, says CBI

By Philip Bassett  
Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S manufacturers are continuing to recover as company order books return to normal, new evidence from the Confederation of British Industry suggests today.

With manufacturing continuing to underperform the rest of the economy, the improvement recorded by the CBI will please ministers in advance of Tuesday's Budget.

In its latest monthly trends survey, the CBI shows that 24 per cent of the 1,100 manufactur-

ing companies examined say that their order books are above normal, and the same proportion below normal — a net balance between the two of zero per cent.

However, flat orders mark a recovery in manufacturing, the survey suggests, after negative net balances of minus 9 per cent in the previous two monthly surveys, and bigger negative figures before that. Overall, the latest figure is the most positive recorded by the CBI since August last year.

However, export orders remain weak, with a net -5 per cent of firms reporting orders to be

below normal. Although this is a slight improvement on the previous figures of -7 and -11 per cent, CBI leaders are sceptical about the total, since the recent strengthening of sterling is likely to worsen the position of exporters.

Price expectations are continuing to increase as manufacturing recovery improves, sending some warning signals about inflation. Manufacturers expect domestic prices to rise over the next four months, with a net balance of 8 per cent of firms suggesting that average prices will rise.

Firms' expectations on prices have risen since September after a downward trend in the first

half of this year, but CBI economists suggest that seasonal factors may be coming into play.

A net 21 per cent of firms forecast increased output, confirming a more positive trend in expectations since mid-year.

The CBI yesterday set out ideas aimed at ensuring that London is Europe's "most successful city" by 2020, including increasing manufacturing's contribution to the capital's economy from 13 per cent to 20 per cent. Anthony Fuller, CBI London region chairman, said: "This new report sets the aim of making London the global centre of wealth creation."

## Ibstock replaces Hopkins

IBSTOCK, the brick manufacturer that last week replaced its chief executive, yesterday removed Anthony Hopkins after two months as head of Ibstock Building Products.

Philip Mengel, who has taken over from Ian Maclellan as Ibstock's chief executive, will now assume Mr Hopkins's responsibilities.

An Ibstock spokesman said that Mr Hopkins "felt his position was untenable". Mr Mengel, 52, described the reason for Mr Hopkins' departure as "just a policy difference over the role of the chief executive... there was a demarcation dispute". They are understood to have disagreed over who should oversee the Redland-Tarmac integration, which will involve restructurings and redundancies.

## FirstBus home

FirstBus has been selected as the preferred bidder for the Great Eastern Railways passenger rail franchise, it was announced to the Stock Exchange last night. John O'Brien, the Franchising Director, is expected to make a formal announcement next month, followed by a handover of the service early in the new year.

## TV agreement

United News & Media has emerged as the winner for Westcountry Television, the ITV company in Devon and Cornwall. It is believed to have agreed to buy Westcountry for about £80 million from the owners, the Daily Mail & General Trust, Britanny Ferries and Southwest Water, in a deal that will give it near blanket coverage of the ITV market in the far South West.

## Storehouse rings up a surprise at halfway

By Clare Stewart

BOOMING overseas franchise sales and a stronger contribution from British Home Stores helped Storehouse, the retail group, to better-than-expected results for the first half.

Excluding exceptional items, pre-tax profits rose 13 per cent to £37.5 million on turnover ahead by 14 per cent to £90.5 million.

Keith Edelman, group chief executive, said that it had been "a successful first half, with excellent progress in each sector". Earnings per share rose 15 per cent to 6.1p before exceptional items, while the interim dividend was increased 10 per cent to 3.3p.

A key feature of the first six months was the acquisition of the Childrens World group, from Boots in May. Exceptional costs in the first half included £16.4 million arising from the integration of the chain.

Childrens World contributed sales of £45.7 million, which were up 6 per cent on a comparable period last year, and operating profits of £1.1 million.

Storehouse has now opened four of the new style out-of-town Mothercare World stores, with rebranding of the Childrens World stores due to begin in early 1997.

Including Childrens World, operating profits at Mothercare rose 19 per cent to £11.1 million. Like-for-like sales fell by 2 per cent, affected by lower sales of childrens wear. Mr Edelman said the sales figures nonetheless showed an improvement on the previous quarter.

The overall 5 per cent increase in Mothercare turnover came entirely from the increased sales to the franchised Mothercare outlets overseas.

At Bhs, like-for-like sales rose 3 per cent, with the contribution from new outlets and overseas sales lifting the total sales increase to 7 per cent. Operating profit rose 21 per cent to £25.1 million.

All divisions improved sales, with menswear and home products leading the way. The group has continued trials of its "millennium design" which it says has lifted



Keith Edelman, chief executive, was in a festive mood after a successful first half

sales and will be introduced to all new Bhs stores.

Total franchise sales in the first half rose by 38 per cent to £47 million, accounting for 8 per cent of group turnover. New Mothercare and Bhs franchised outlets were opened in new markets such as Russia, Israel and Lebanon

and by the year end the total number of shops is expected to reach 300. Four more Bhs stores are due to open in the second half together with four Mothercare outlets and two Mothercare World stores. Capital expenditure for the year is estimated at £10 million.

UK gross margins in-

creased in both Bhs and Mothercare. Across the group margins slipped, reflecting the impact of lower-margin sales at Childrens World and sales to franchise outlets at wholesale prices.

Analysts are forecasting full year profits of £126 million, and a dividend of 8.3p.

## Price deal by Energy to ensure stability

By Christine Buckley  
Industrial Correspondent

BRITISH ENERGY, the nuclear generator, has struck a deal with Southern Electric for energy supplies stretching over 15 years. The move will ensure price stability for more than 15 per cent of its output, and is designed primarily to shield the generator from fluctuating electricity prices.

Announcing a drop in pre-tax losses for the half year yesterday, British Energy gave warning that the price of electricity was likely to fall. As British Energy operates in an area of power production that is unable to set prices, it is vulnerable to price fluctuations. It can protect itself by hedging contracts but such devices prevented the company from enjoying the benefits of the unexpectedly high trading price of electricity in recent months.

British Energy faces further uncertainty if there is a change of government, with Labour saying the privileged status of nuclear in the electricity industry — that it is the last form of generation to be called off the system — could be reviewed. But Bob Hawley, chief executive, dismissed it as technically unworkable.

In the past six months the company suffered a £26 million cost in lost revenue and repairs from problems with the two reactors shut down amid a storm of controversy days before privatisation of the company, and hours after individual investors had submitted their applications.

But British Energy said it was on course to make a profit in its full financial year. In the six months to September 30 it lost £53 million, compared with a pro forma loss of £169 million for the same period last year. Output rose 12 per cent after improvements in production efficiency at its power stations.

But the company, which last month announced 1,400 job losses, gave a warning that future improvements in capacity at its generators could only be modest.

An interim dividend of 4.6p is payable on January 28.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### London 'will remain major finance centre'

LONDON will retain its position as one of the three major global financial centres, regardless of whether Britain joins the European Monetary Union (EMU), according to a senior Bank of England director. John Townsend, deputy director of the Bank, told a City & Financial conference in London yesterday: "London's particular strengths, which have proved attractive over the years, remain in place quite unaffected by EMU — the English language, the convenient time zone, availability in abundance of relevant trading and banking skills, the unbureaucratic regulatory framework, the technological infrastructure, and the critical mass of so diverse a range of markets and financial and ancillary services available in one place."

Mr Townsend's speech on London's position in the global trading cycle regardless of the EMU follows one earlier this week by Ian Plenderleith, fellow director of the Bank of England, on the same subject.

### Merry Glenmorangie

GEOFFREY MADDELL, chairman of Glenmorangie, yesterday predicted the whisky company would enjoy a happy Christmas and said that there were signs of improved price stability in the drinks market. Mr Maddell's positive comments helped Glenmorangie 'A' shares to rise 55p to a closing all-time high of 815p. There was a 7 per cent increase in half year pre-tax profits to £4.3 million. Overall turnover rose 26 per cent to £23 million. The 'A' share and 'B' share interim dividends were increased by 10 per cent to 3.025p and 1.513p respectively, payable on January 15, 1997.

### NSM warns of loss

SHARES of NSM plunged from 42½p to a five-year low of 23½p yesterday, as the mining company gave warning that interest on its spiralling debt would force it to return a halfway loss. The company, profitable for the last three years, is to sell its US operations to combat the \$95 million debt but expects to receive substantially less than asset value. John Jermaine, chairman, said trading should pick up substantially next year as its deep mine in South Wales reaches full capacity. After the US disposals NSM will be left with its principal deep mine in South Wales and another 12 opencast mines.

### DBS profit soars 109%

DBS Management, the financial and business services group based in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, has announced half-year pre-tax profits up 109 per cent, to £2.7 million, with turnover up 59 per cent, to £53.8 million. The interim dividend has been increased 71 per cent, to 6p per share, while earnings per share have jumped 74 per cent to 22.5p. DBS shares, which are quoted on AIM, rose 40p to 495p in response to the news. Martin Greenwood, chief executive, said that the company hoped to be able to seek a full stock market quotation before the end of its financial year on March 31.

### Royal plea for help

THE PRINCE OF WALES yesterday urged the business community to give its backing to the new Gifts in Kind charity and "make a big difference to people's lives". The new venture will act as a clearing house through which donations in kind, rather than in cash, can be matched to the most suitable charity. The charity has already received £177,000 from the National Lottery and has signed up the support of Lloyds TSB Group, which provides office space for the charity; Disney Stores; TNT, the transport group; Hewlett Packard; and IBM.

### Macdonald Hotels up

MACDONALD HOTELS said yesterday that it was looking forward with confidence as the company unveiled a two-thirds increase in half-year profits before tax to £4.6 million. The company added five hotels during the first part of the year, increasing its rooms to 1,420 in 22 hotels. Overall, turnover increased 25 per cent to £19.2 million. The hotel division increased profits, excluding exceptional items, 15 per cent to £4.5 million. A maiden interim dividend of 1.5p is payable on January 9.

### Car Group worth £43m

THE CAR GROUP, bought by its management for £25 million in March, will be valued at £43 million when it joins the stock exchange next Thursday. The company has raised £14.5 million from the flotation, which it will use to buy out its original backers. The flotation will make Martyn Doherty, its managing director, a paper millionaire by valuing his stake at £2.6 million. Richard Farr, chairman, and Peter King, chief executive, will also share a stake worth £4.95 million. Charterhouse Tilney is placing 15 million shares at 138p each.

### Lowndes Lambert slips

LOWNDES LAMBERT GROUP, the international insurance broker, said worldwide rates had continued to fall or remain flat as it unveiled a £1 million fall in interim pre-tax profits to £5 million. Although markets in the UK, United States, Europe and other overseas divisions have been tough, the group was maintaining its interim at 2.9. Group turnover was up 11 per cent to £40.4 million (£36.4 million) and the interim results included the cost of restructuring, some job losses, the introduction of new technology and acquisitions.

### Robert Wiseman ahead

ROBERT WISEMAN DAIRIES yesterday said that it is under tough pricing pressure from its supermarket customers as it reported a rise in first-half pre-tax profits from £4.6 million to £6.1 million. The company has increased the interim dividend from 1p to 1.15p out of earnings up from 4.47p to 5.47p. Alan Wiseman, the chairman, said: "We have experienced increased margin pressure in the second half year, in particular, as a result of weak bulk cream prices and the ever competitive multiple retailer sector."

## Morgan unit trusts to be run from Germany

By Robert Miller and Caroline Merrell

DEUTSCHE BANK, the German owner of Morgan Grenfell, delivered a humiliating blow to its London unit trust arm yesterday when it announced that it was transferring the supervisory role of the UK unit trust company to Frankfurt.

On September 1 Morgan Grenfell was forced to suspend dealings in three of its European unit trusts after alleged irregularities were uncovered by Imro, the watchdog for fund managers.

Peter Young, manager of two of the funds, was suspended from his duties at Morgan Grenfell and subsequently sacked. He is now the subject of an investigation

by the Serious Fraud Office. Deutsche Bank was forced to inject about £180 million into the three trusts before trading in units resumed. Last month, seven senior Morgan Grenfell executives, including Keith Percy, the chief executive, left the company.

The German bank had already hinted that it would shift the supervisory role of the unit trusts, but not the cash or day-to-day management, to head office.

Morgan Grenfell in London and Imro its regulator had no advance warning of yesterday's announcement, however, and both expressed surprise, and in the case of the watchdog "considerable concern".

Phillip Thorpe, chief executive of Imro, said: "Any physical separation of related management or compliance functions is not ideal. In some circumstances it may not be acceptable. We have yet to receive any request from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell on this matter."

Investors with a total of £1.1 billion in three unit trusts have yet to hear any details of the compensation they could be offered.

Deutsche Bank has pledged to compensate for any "losses resulting from irregularities". It has said it will treat those remaining invested with Morgan Grenfell in the same way as those who sold after the problems were uncovered.

## Lloyds TSB property auction raises £40 million

## Bankable assets sell on the nod

By Martin Baker

THE charming man behind the gilded podium in the ballroom of the Hyde Park Hotel enjoyed one of the 300-or-so investors present. "Just nod, sir. It's easier than shaking your head." And seconds later the TSB in Taunton town centre was knocked down to a happy buyer for a cool £12.2 million — on the nod.

The sale of 108 branches of the Lloyds Bank TSB network yesterday was, according to John Townsend of Healey & Baker, the auctioneer, "the largest lot sale of property in Britain". It also attracted investors from Germany, the United States and Republic of Ireland, who helped to spend just over £40 million on 19 sites in Scotland, and others spread

around Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham and the South West.

The freehold and long leasehold properties went with a guarantee of 15 years' income. The Lloyds Bank leases guarantee investors that the bank will stay put for at least that term, while the TSB leases allow for some sub-letting but guarantee that the TSB will remain responsible for the rent. Prices typically started out at a multiple of ten times the annual income, with the more expensive properties offering a better yield.

The TSB in Fore Street, Taunton, currently provides an income of £120,000. But the next lot, a Lloyds Bank branch in Retford, Nottinghamshire, offered a more modest 8.75 per cent yield of £35,000 for a purchase price of £400,000.

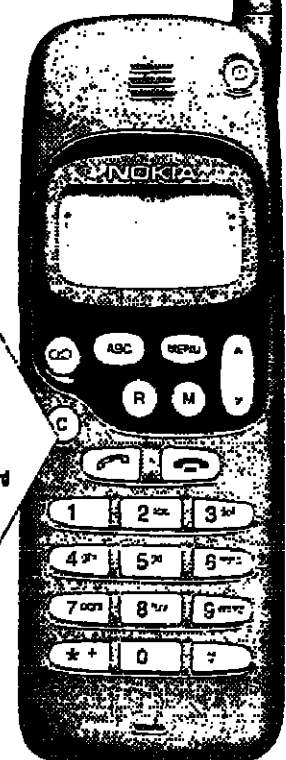
Given the attractive yields on offer, investment analysts might wonder what Lloyds TSB knows that the rest of the world does not. Why diminish exposure to a sought-after property market? The answer, according to a Lloyds/TSB spokesman is cashflow. "By selling the properties we simply free up our capital." But that still begs the question of what will be done with the money.

One thing seems certain, however. If there are similar sales, investor interest is likely to intensify. When asked in the hotel cloakroom whether she had got what she came for, a fur-coated woman insisted that she had come only to observe as representative of German private investors. If there were another auction, would she return? She nodded.

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## TOURIST RATES

Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.17	Bank	2.17
Austria Sch	13.07	Bank	13.07
Belgium Fr	54.71	Bank	54.71
Canada C\$	0.538	Bank	0.538
Cyprus Cyp£	0.737	Bank	0.737
Denmark Kr	10.28	Bank	10.28
France Ffr	6.55	Bank	6.55
Germany DM	2.46	Bank	2.46
Greece Dr	412	Bank	412
Hong Kong S\$	13.90	Bank	13.90
Ireland P£	1.15	Bank	1.15
Italy Lit	1.05	Bank	1.05
Japan Yen	5.74	Bank	5.74
Malaysia M\$	2.67	Bank	2.67
Netherlands Gld	2.20	Bank	2.20
New Zealand \$	2.98	Bank	2.98
Portugal Esc	2.00	Bank	2.00
S Africa R	11.13	Bank	11.13
Spain Ptas	265.00	Bank	265.00
Sweden Kr	2.46	Bank	2.46
Switzerland Fr	2.00	Bank	2.00
Taiwan N\$	17.00	Bank	17.00
USA \$	1.776	Bank	1.776

□ Questions for Rothschild from the PAC □ Tokyo lets Hanwa sink □ Customer protest unlikely to shake society

## Miner earthquake, public loses out

ON a Richter Scale of government mishandling of public assets, the findings of the Public Accounts Committee into the sale last year of British Coal probably rate about a three — a minor tremor, a few shaken reputations but no structural damage.

The main concern relates to NM Rothschild, the bank that cornered the market in privatisation work on behalf of the Government. A side issue was the involvement of Richard Budge, the eventual buyer of large chunks of British Coal, in an inquiry into the financial affairs of his brother, which was not notified to those selling the coal industry. As Mr Budge was cleared of any wrongdoing, this is more a failure of communication between officials than anything more sinister.

As to Rothschild's, the valuations the bank provided for Britain's coal industry proved hopelessly short of the mark. The bank was first appointed to look at coal in 1991. At the time Lord Wakeham was Secretary of State for Energy, and paved the way for the sell-off of the coal industry, not least through overseeing the earlier privatisation of the electricity industry.

Lord Wakeham trundled off to the House of Lords in 1992,

leaving the Government entirely in July 1994. Just six months later he popped up as non-executive director at Rothschild's, a part-time job that delivers pocket money of £50,000. His appointment led to calls for rules to stem the flow of ex-ministers into jobs with companies that they helped privatise.

The bank was criticised by the committee for the value it put on Britain's coalmines, some of which went on to deliver wondrously high profits for Mr Budge and the £2.5 million success bonus paid based on some criteria which Rothschild had already achieved — easy money, in other words.

British Coal, like virtually every other privatisation, was sold off too cheaply. The trouble with valuations like the one provided by Rothschild is that they tend to set a guide price on assets, rather than making the buyer do the work. The cosy links between Government and City are unavoidable, as the rules are at present. Lord

Wakeham would hardly have gone to such a prestigious bank had he been in charge of the arts or tourism. He was allowed to go, and they wanted him there.

Lucky Richard Budge. We have all wondered at the unexpected success of RJB, and now we need wonder no more. He was sold the business too cheap. Again, no blame attaches to him. The real blame attaches to those unnamed officials at the Department of Trade and Industry who allowed themselves to be legged over by the City. Again.

### Japan breaks the bank

THERE is an old joke on Japan's monolithic politics that has the American occupying forces explaining that a mature liberal democracy is two-sided, with a government and an opposition. The Japanese go away and create just such a system — and so it remains for decades, the same government



and the same opposition. The financial world in Japan, also drawn up by the Americans along American lines, was similarly ossified — hence the need for a Japanese Big Bang to prevent further loss of market share to other, less-regulated Asian exchanges, such as Hong Kong and Singapore.

Less regulation means more risk, and this requires the odd business to founder. The decision to cut loose a small regional bank in Osaka, rather than rallying round other banks to provide buoyancy until the business floated back to the surface of its own accord, is a further move in

the direction of bringing Japanese financial services into line with the rest of the world.

If the Ministry of Finance goes through with its stated intention to allow Hanwa Bank of Osaka to go under, this should strengthen most of the remaining players in Japan's financial system and boost the credibility of the authorities. Only most, though; some analysts are convinced that the new policy will mean a third of Japanese financial institutions will cease to exist in their current form.

Under plans put in place in the spring, all deposits at financial institutions will be protected for a period of five years, until 2001 when the Big Bang is due to hit, during which time the aim is to encourage the principle of self-responsibility and expand the disclosure of information.

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, was in Japan 11 months ago, oddly enough. He told banks there that a stainless steel safety net designed to save all who suffer would merely

encourage higher and higher-risk strategies by institutions that were guaranteed not to fail no matter how daft their actions, until the rescue costs became too high and the system collapsed. The Japanese have now been forced to heed his advice.

### All over at A&L bar withdrawals

MY brief note last week likening those customers of the Alliance & Leicester unhappy with the bonuses coming with conversion to ungrateful paupers squabbling over charity hand-outs has prompted a response from readers quite out of proportion to its length. The issue has aroused an unexpected degree of passion.

The rebel customers are threatening to withdraw £100 million in protest. As the society has assets of more than £23 billion, this is not going to make the pillars of this particular temple crumble. There is some-

thing deeply unedifying about already wealthy people resorting to such tactics in return for a bob or two more. But let us try to look at the matter dispassionately.

A&L customers are indeed its ultimate owners, just as shareholders own the company. The parallel ends there. Each share, by law, carries the same rights: the more shares, the greater the control. The same does not apply to each pound invested in society accounts, any more than customers in a clearing bank have rights that increase along with their bank balances.

Second, the bonuses on conversion are not a "return" on an "investment" — this comes in the form of interest paid on those balances. They are designed to compensate members for the loss of mutual status. As this is indivisible, a sliding scale of compensation is only applicable when this system benefits the majority of members. This does not apply in the A&L's case; instead, because of the large number of small investors, an equal payout to all is the more utilitarian approach.

It seems clear that a sufficient majority of A&L customers have already voted in favour of the terms on offer. That would seem to settle the matter.

## Glaxo buys full control of Japanese joint venture

BY ERIC REGULY

GLAXO WELLCOME put itself in position yesterday to attack the Japanese pharmaceuticals market on its own by taking full control of its biggest Japanese joint venture for about £361 million.

The deal marks the end of more than four decades of collaboration with the Konishi family, which owned half of Nippon Glaxo, the joint venture. Glaxo had been trying to buy the Konishi stake for some time because of the family's apparent resistance to make significant investments in the business, analysts said.

Glaxo would not comment on its relationship with the Konishis, but said that owning 100 per cent of Nippon Glaxo

would provide it with a "platform for growth" in the world's second-largest pharmaceuticals market. Glaxo has been criticised for its inability to raise its market share in Japan beyond about 2 per cent, which is less than half of its global market share.

Nippon Glaxo has a broad range of research and development, manufacturing and distribution operations. Most of the older drugs in its portfolio, including Zantac, the ulcer treatment, are sold through the joint venture. But many new drugs, such as Imigran, a migraine medicine, have not been approved yet for Japanese use. Nippon Glaxo reported after-tax profits of £15.6 million



Sykes ending collaboration

in the half year to June 30 and had net assets of £180 million. Sir Richard Sykes, Glaxo chief executive, wants to merge Nippon Glaxo with

Nippon Wellcome, its other joint venture in Japan, which it inherited last year after taking over Wellcome. Nippon Wellcome is 55 per cent owned by Glaxo and 45 per cent by Sumitomo. Before merging the joint ventures, Glaxo must decide whether it wants to keep Sumitomo as a partner or find another candidate.

Merging the two ventures would create a company with some £700 million in annual sales, equivalent to 9 per cent of Glaxo's total turnover. Its long-term goal is to double its Japanese market share. Glaxo said the purchase of the Nippon Glaxo stake would be financed through borrowings and be earnings enhancing.

Tempus, page 30

### Sears likely to seek buyer for Freemans

SPECULATION was growing yesterday that Sears, the troubled stores group run by Liam Strong, is looking to sell its Freemans catalogue business (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Continental catalogue companies such as Otto Versand of Germany and Pinault Printemps Redoute of France are thought the most likely bidders. Analysts say the company would probably fetch around £400 million. Otto Versand, a private company, owns the Graziat catalogue business, while PPR owns Empire.

Other possible bidders for Freemans are thought to include N Brown, the small but very successful catalogue group, as well as Littlewoods and Burton.

## Morgan Crucible to float Emblem

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

MORGAN CRUCIBLE, the specialist engineering group, yesterday confirmed that it is to spin-off its aerospace, sensors and instruments division in a float likely to value the business at £40 million.

The move to float the recently formed Emblem division reflects Morgan's strategy of focusing on its core materials technology activity.

Proceeds of the float will be used further to reduce Morgan's debt pile: the City believes that the company will soon launch a major acquisition drive to expand its industrial ceramics division.

Emblem operates two divisions, which have manufacturing facilities in the UK and the US. The aerospace division, representing 62 per cent

of its turnover, produces aircraft weapons systems, scanning motors and the cord reels and integrated handset cradles used by airlines' in-flight entertainment systems. The sensors and instruments division specialises in electro-optic sensors for civil and medical uses, nuclear reactor detectors and Geiger counters.

Emblem last year produced operating profits, excluding management charges and exceptional items, of £4.3 million on turnover of £36 million. It forecasts profits, excluding management charges and exceptional items, of £5.1 million for the year to January 4 1997. The existing management will remain after the float.

Tempus, page 30

### Waddington jumps 36% at half time

STABILITY in paper and plastic markets stoked profits growth at Waddington, the printing and packaging group, as it returned pre-tax profits of £15.5 million, a 36 per cent gain in the six months to September 28 (Fraser Nelson writes).

As the group's £40 million capital expenditure programme got under way, sales grew 18 per cent to £186 million. Earnings jumped from 7.9p to 10.54p per share, and an interim dividend is 10 per cent higher, at 4.4p, due on January 17. The pharmaceutical packaging division returned operating profits 59 per cent ahead at £3.43 million. The shares rose 54p to 26.4p.

## BRITAIN'S INVESTMENT IN TECHNOLOGY SUPPORTS THE ECONOMY

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This success story has created a whole industry. In Britain, the Airbus programmes actively support 25,000 jobs in over 300 companies, and contribute £1 billion a year to the trade balance. These high-value-added, wealth creating aircraft programmes account for more than 1.5 per cent of Britain's total manufacturing sales abroad.

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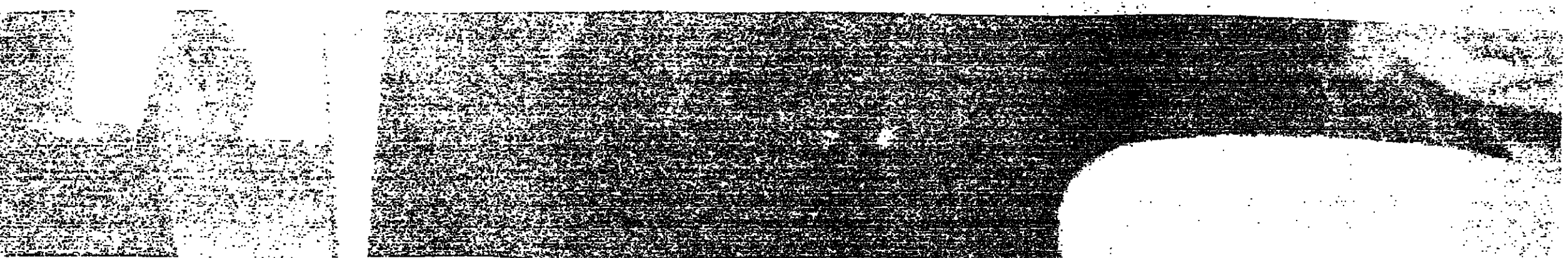


**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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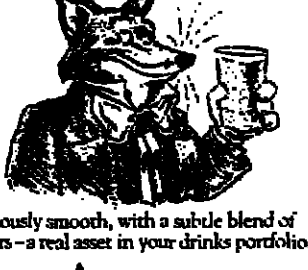
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Tony Sutton presents a two-page special report on the regeneration of a once great city that is fighting to regain its former glory

# Shipshape and back in fashion

Grants triggering more than £400 million worth of development in Bristol's city centre are expected to be announced today when Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, visits the area. English Partnerships, the Government's regeneration body, is to provide £35 million to fund the infrastructure for Bristol's key strategic sites — the former 66-acre Bristol Docks, now called Harbourside, and the 23-acre Temple Quay near Bristol's main railway station.

Schemes for these sites will transform the centre of Bristol.

At Harbourside, work on an £82 million science and leisure complex — featuring what is described as the UK's first electronic zoo — will start in the new year. Expectations are high that the £98 million Centre for the Performing Arts will succeed in its £75 million bid for funding from the National Arts Council. This will aim to be the premier arts facility for the West of England. The science and leisure elements, Wildscreen World and Science World, have just been granted £41 million of National Lottery money from the Millennium Commission.

The other site, Temple Quay, is planned to become Bristol's headquarter office sector, linking the railway station with Broadmead, the city's main shopping area.

These developments represent a turnaround in Bristol's fortunes. For years there have been schemes for the regeneration of the historic harbour area. Until now, all have foundered. It has taken a huge change in attitudes by the public and private sectors, an improving economy and public funding to get the city moving again. Both sectors now realise they need each other and have built close working relationships through partnership boards and companies.

Big companies such as Sun Life have relocated to north Bristol close to the M4-M5 corridor. John Lewis, Bristol's largest department store, is leaving Broadmead, the main shopping area, to set up in a



Heseltine: announcement today

750,000 sq ft out-of-town regional shopping centre at Cribbs Causeway on the M5. This will be a mini-Meadowhall complete with leisure facilities and is expected to open in the spring of 1998.

In recent years there has also been a rapid growth of business parks in north Bristol and they have begun to challenge the city for new development.

The Ministry of Defence opened its Procurement Executive office complex in north Bristol this summer. At 1.2 million sq ft, it was the biggest office scheme in Britain and it has had a big impact on the area, attracting defence-related companies and boosting the local housing market. The nearby Bradley Stoke housing estate is no longer "sadly broke" as a BBC documentary programme described it. House prices are increasing by about 1 per cent a month.

In the west, the opening last June of the £350 million Second Severn Crossing is having a profound effect on both sides of the river. On the Bristol side, a 2,000-acre tract of land is being developed by ICI and RTZ and marketed as Severnside. It is in this area that Bristol has

scored one of its greatest successes, the privatisation of the present Bristol Docks at Portbury. The port now boasts that it is the UK's second-biggest car-handler and has gained more than £100 million investment since it passed into private hands.

Today's investment announcements in the city centre will do much to redress the imbalance that was developing between the two areas, city centre and out of town.

City council attempts to keep companies such as Bristol & West Building Society and BT in the centre appear to have succeeded. Bristol & West is now a racing certainty to move to Temple Quay, and there is a good possibility that it will be joined by BT. In total, they require about 400,000 sq ft — more than the average annual take-up of office space in the city.

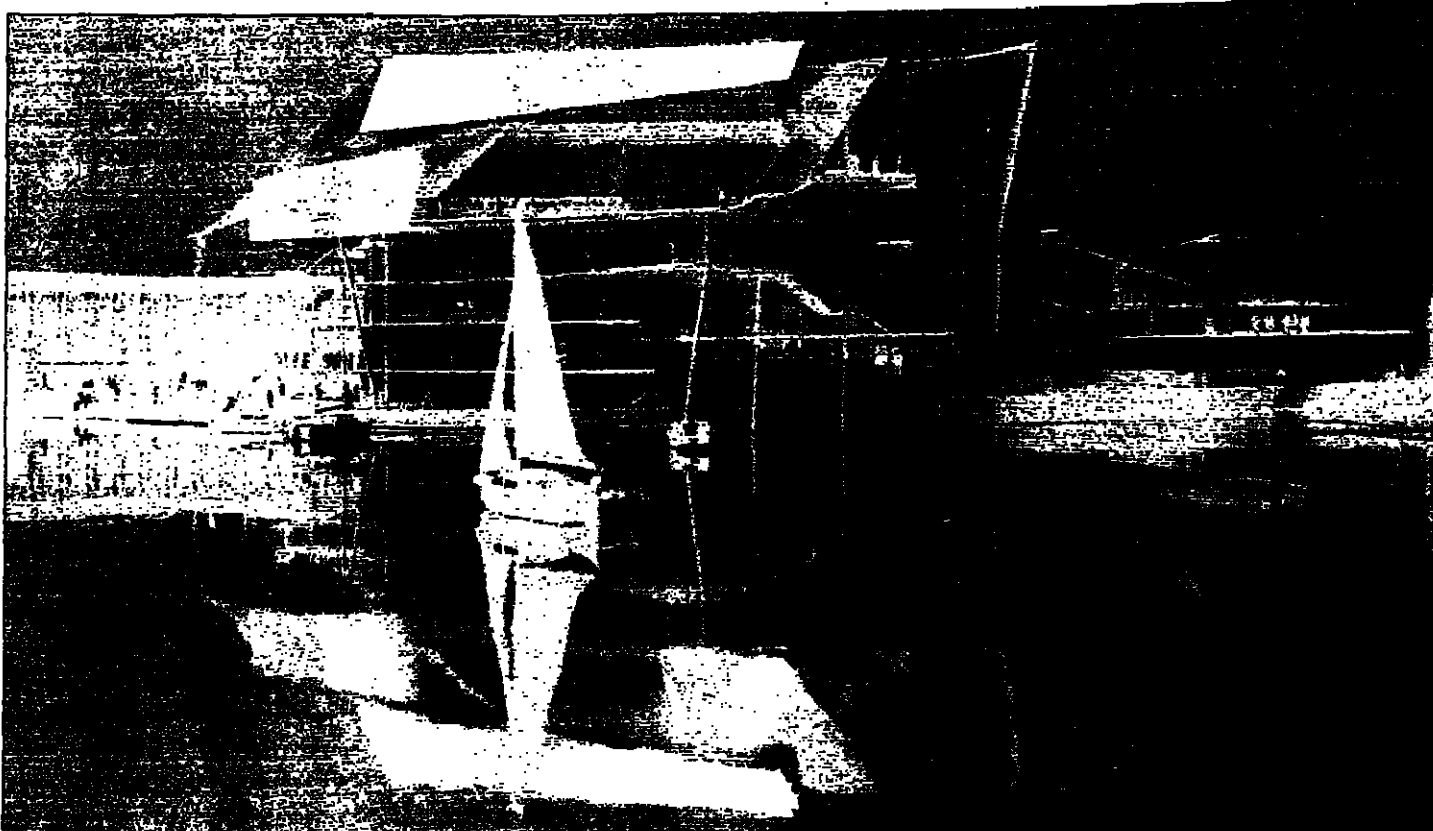
There is also progress in tackling traffic problems. Companies are being asked to submit plans for a rapid transit system that could cost up to £400 million.

The management of the town centre is being handled by the Broadmead Board, set up by the public and private sectors. John Lewis's Broadmead premises are being taken over by Bentalls, which will undertake a £10 million refurbishment programme before it opens in autumn 1998.

The initial success of the Broadmead Board has caught the interest of Newcastle, Coventry, and Swansea.

Paul Smith, the chairman of the council's city committee and joint chairman of the Broadmead Board, says: "Companies we thought were going to leave the city are now deciding to stay and that is obviously anchoring a large number of jobs within the city. I think we are beginning to win the battle against out-of-town development — residential, commercial and retail."

"For the first time in about 30 years, the population of the city has increased. And this has been mainly in the central area."



A model of the Centre for the Performing Arts proposed for Canon's Marsh in the Harbourside area. Arts Council funding is being sought

## How they all pulled together

After years of decline, public and private sectors united



Portillo: remarkable change

Bristol has become a "model city for regeneration". Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, announced when he opened the MOD's massive £254 million defence procurement headquarters in north Bristol earlier this year. It was music to the ears of many Labour councillors present, who could remember bitter battles with the Thatcher Government over the issue.

Mr Portillo acknowledged that there had been a remarkable change. One of the reasons Bristol failed to win any City Challenge money five years ago was because the Government could not believe the public and private sectors were really working together, he said.

That failed challenge had depressed many in both camps. They were seeing other cities such as Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Cardiff forge ahead. Bristol, with its long seafaring history and its status for much of the past millennium as the realm's second city, faced an

uncertain future. Its position had sunk to eighth and its image tarnished as the Government set about imposing an urban development corporation on a most reluctant local authority.

The city council fought it all the way to the House of Lords but without success. But it meant that the corporation received little support for much of its existence.

"Bristol unfortunately had a reputation for being preoccupied with politics and it suffered," Nicholas Hood, chairman of Westex Water, says. "The city and the area receded in the Seventies and Eighties. When I was a boy the tobacco industry employed 40,000 people in Bristol. Today I think it is

just 300. The drinks industry and, of course defence, has also declined."

Louis Sherwood, chairman of HTV, recalls "about a dozen leading businessmen getting together in 1989 to create the Initiative. In a sense both public and private

sectors came towards each other and there was a realisation that unless we all started working together and pulling in the same direction things were not going to happen in Bristol."

St John Hartnell, senior partner of commercial agent Hartnell Taylor Cook, says: "The Initiative was eventually about 70-strong and had every chairman of every mover and shaker in Bristol as a member."

It was merged with the Chamber of Commerce in 1993 to form a rather unique animal, the Chamber of Commerce and Initiative. Ken Johnson, projects director of English Partnerships, says: "Bristol is going to have more to shout about than it has had for a long time. There is now a tremendous opportunity for the city to become very upbeat."

There are now 16 partnership schemes. Joint activities range from housing for the poor to developing £200 million projects such as Harbourside.



Temple Quay: it is to become Bristol's top office sector, linking the railway station and main shopping area

## Marketing skills to bring real work to the jobless

The region offers investors a thriving business centre with good road, rail, air and shipping links

Bristol has an important strategic role to play in the economic development and regeneration of the area around it. As a major manufacturing base, the city is of great importance in helping to attract new investment.

The Western Development Partnership (WDP) is carrying out work to help local businesses to thrive. The organisation was formed in 1993 by local public and private-sector partners in what used to be known as the county of Avon, which was replaced this year by four unitary authorities for Bristol, Bath, the Somerset resort of Weston-super-Mare and south Gloucestershire in the area where the M4 meets the M5. It promotes the sub-region as "Bristol, Bath, West of England".

It is backed by the area's local authorities, the business community and a range of other agencies committed to economic development. Operating as a limited company it plans to develop the area as one of the most prosperous and technically advanced in Europe, through a strategy of diversifying the economy.

Bristol is a thriving financial services, manufacturing and retail centre with excellent motorway, rail, air and shipping links. Like other areas in the region, however, it also has inner-city deprivation and pockets of high unemployment and long-term joblessness. WDP is harnessing the

skills of local authorities, the business community, training and employment agencies and academics to develop a blueprint for a strategy for regeneration.

Martin Willey, the chief executive, says: "The WDP has got all the organisations involved in economic development and regeneration to pull in one direction. As regards inward investment, we are beginning to secure a substantial increase in company relocation."

There has been a complete turnaround in co-operation. It has been a great achievement

The organisation has progressively developed initiatives to target the development of industrial and business sectors that are strongly represented in the area. These are backed by seconded staff from local companies, including British Aerospace and Rolls-Royce, and by regular support from higher education, government agencies and organisations such as the Western Training and Enterprise Council (Westec), which pro-

vides WDP with substantial funding.

Initiatives include a West of England Aerospace Forum and other specialist industry-led groups for financial services, multimedia, direct marketing, medicine and health and printing and packaging.

Westec operates as a private company and plays a central role in attracting business, ensuring the local workforce has skills that employers want and helping

regeneration at Westec, says the area's economy is now supported by a powerful network of partnership organisations.

"Compared with five years ago, there has been a complete turnaround in terms of co-operation in the area. It has been a great achievement." He believes one of the notable advances has been in "people development" and points out that about 25 per cent of the area's employees now work for companies that have achieved or are working towards the Investors in People standard.

About 6,000 people, either long-term unemployed or aged 16 to 24, are undergoing training. A further 900 people have benefited from Modern Apprenticeships since the scheme started in 1994.

The Western Development Partnership is one of five economic development agencies operating in Gloucestershire, Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire. Its efforts are backed by the West of England Development Agency (WEDA), the Government-funded inward investment organisation for the region.

The idea is that the various county-based bodies and WEDA co-operate and "turn as a pack" to establish a marketable identity for the region in order to attract inward investors.

CRAIG SETON

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## Voyage that will put Bristol back on map

Twenty-seven million people watched the programme on BBC television and 17 million on ITV, so it must have been a World Cup final or a royal wedding. But no, the event that attracted so many viewers was the Festival of the Sea celebration in Bristol earlier this year.

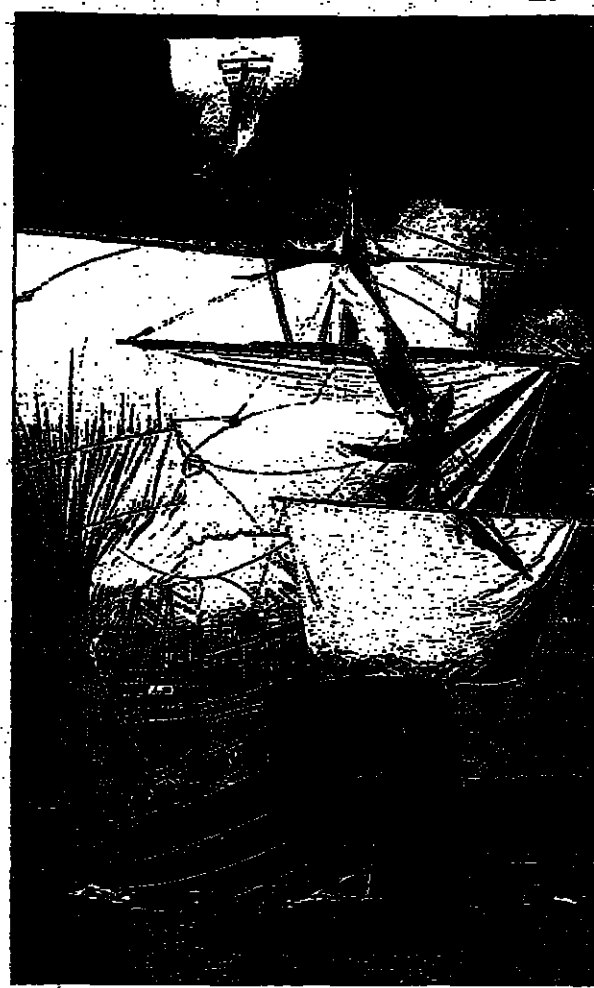
No one was more surprised than the sponsors, who had thought up the event almost as a backdrop for the launch of a replica of John Cabot's ship, *Matthew*, which set out from Bristol in 1497. The "real" event is next year when the *Matthew*, after a royal send-off, retraces Cabot's epic voyage across the Atlantic in which the explorer landed in North America and called it "New Foundland".

*Matthew's* promoters — Bristol's public and private sectors — hope not only that the voyage will help to put Bristol back on the world map but will also "destroy the Columbus myth". "Columbus never set foot on North America, Cabot was the real hero," says St John Hartnell, chairman of the Cabot committee that has realised this scheme, and senior partner of commercial property agents Hartnell, Taylor, Cook. The voyage is also a reminder of Bristol's illustrious past. For centuries it was the second city in the land and the kingdom's most important port.

The *Matthew* project was born at an important time — when the city seemed to be losing out to other places in importance and even its own inhabitants were losing faith. There were riots, and a growing exodus of companies from Bristol.

"The whole of Bristol is behind *Matthew*," says Mr Hartnell. "Everyone refers to it as our ship. Many people would argue that the ship itself has been the cause of the get-together in Bristol — the first outward sign that the city and private enterprise could really work together."

When *Matthew* sets sail on May 2, exactly 500 years after John Cabot, it may be accompanied by a flotilla of small and tall ships. Cana-



Setting sail: the replica of John Cabot's *Matthew*

da's new destroyer, HMS *St John*, will escort the ship across the Atlantic.

By the time the journey starts everyone should know about it. In Bristol there will be two balls, one at the start of the journey along the Avon and one at the end. Along the river there will be a mile-long, two-day fair culminating in a fireworks display at Fortbury.

For those not able to witness this event in person there is to be television coverage. The BBC is to broadcast six half-hour, prime-time programmes during the ship's voyage across the Atlantic. There will be simultaneous broadcasts throughout the United States and Canada.

When *Matthew* arrives in North America, the festivities will restart. The ship will

be greeted by the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prime Minister of Canada, Jean Chrétien, and Brian Tobin, the Premier of Newfoundland.

Several events are planned as *Matthew* circumnavigates Newfoundland, travels up the St Lawrence river to Boston, Massachusetts, and then on to Newport, Rhode Island, and New York. Everyone should have heard of Bristol by journey's end.

*Matthew's* promoters describe it as "one of the highest profile events of 1997".

The scheme, which has cost £1.75 million, has been underwritten by festival chairman Michael Slade, who runs property developers Helical Bar. He is not expected to be out of pocket.

TONY SUTTON

A site, unwanted for a decade, is to become the biggest area for renewal, says Tony Sutton

When Michael Heseltine visits Temple Quay today he will come to applaud success. But 12 months ago the 23-acre site in Bristol city centre seemed almost impossible to develop. Many national developers had come and departed empty-handed.

Now Bristol & West Building Society should announce that it will be building the biggest headquarters offices the city centre has seen in recent times.

Assuming the best laid plans do not go awry, Bristol & West will be buying the 2.6-acre waterfront site opposite NatWest Life's headquarters and putting up 270,000 sq ft of buildings, to be built in phases. The first phase of 150,000 sq ft will start next year.

At the same time property developer Castlemore will be signing up to produce a speculative office scheme of nearly 45,000 sq ft and a mixed-use leisure/retail facility of 70,000 sq ft.

All these developments are in the core part of a 23-acre site stretching from Brunel's much-admired Temple Meads railway station to the Floating Harbour. This area is destined to become Bristol's new office quarter. There is planning consent for up to one million sq ft of offices, but the final density is likely to be less, perhaps 750,000 sq ft. It will be supported by shops, restaurants and other services.

Ken Johnson, projects director for English Partnerships, the Government's regeneration body, says: "What we are creating here is the best office site in Bristol." The agency is investing £15 million in the site with the creation of new roads, squares and public open spaces. Investment from the private sector is expected to be in excess of £200 million.

The city council is keen to have a large arena for staging events which would serve the region and be ideally located next to Bristol's main railway station. The agency is examining how it could be funded as it



Cheers: Bristol entrepreneurs Michael Slade, left, and St John Hartnell drink a toast on Harbourside to the city's future

## £215 million plan for city's new business heart

would require a public subsidy.

This is the first major site that English Partnerships has taken over from a development corporation and could be the model for other such transactions.

In two years' time, when the London Docklands Development Corporation comes to the end of its life, English Partnerships will acquire the Royal Docks. And in the same year, in Plymouth, the development corporation's flagship site, Royal William Yard, is also likely to pass into the

6 New road links to be built



Ken Johnson: "It'll be the best office site in Bristol"

agency's hands. In effect the agency is taking over unfinished business of the corporations which in some cases will be rescue missions, ranging from half-completed schemes to projects which are still in the pipeline.

Despite six years of intensive marketing, the corporation had failed to secure any regeneration of its key site. In ten years the site has gone through three name changes — Temple Meads, Quay Point and now Temple Quay. So what English Partnerships has achieved in just under 12

6 Project to boost retail and leisure

months is remarkable. It has been helped by a dramatic change in the political climate, a rapidly improving economy — and by putting more public money into the site.

"The approach we are taking is very proactive," says Mr Johnson. "We are in direct control, using the appropriate development agencies such as Castlemore and Bristol & West to procure individual buildings. I think it looks as if this approach is going to pay dividends."

English Partnerships in Bristol has also forged a close working relationship with the city council. "Although the city is not a landowner at Temple Quay, we are working with them very closely in terms of developing the masterplan and going through the planning process. This means there is a general involvement in an important part of the city," Mr Johnson says.

"It is a good relationship. It works well given the difficulties that existed between the city and the development corporation."

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## THE ARTS AND TOURISM

### Step into a lions' den at the electronic zoo

Slow-motion replays showing how animals function, zooming into a termite colony to see how it works and dropping in on a penguin colony in the polar regions — these are just some of a range of attractions visitors will be able to experience in Britain's first electronic zoo, Tony Sutton writes.

Due to open in 1999, it will be one of the elements making up Wildscreen World and Science World at Harbourside, Bristol's historic harbour area. A year later, it is expected that they will be joined by a Centre for the Performing Arts (CPA) which will finally achieve Bristol's long-term dream of giving the region "a new focus for leisure, the arts and tourism".

Christopher Parsons, the man behind Wildscreen World, says that the mixing of elements — animals, models, graphics and audiovisual systems in an integrated way to

tell a story has not been done before. There will also be a large format 3D cinema supported by six-track sound. The effect will be to transport the audience to the habitat on view. You could find yourself surrounded by sharks or perhaps lions.

Mr Parsons, who produced David Attenborough's *Life on Earth* series, says: "This is just one component of what you might call a year-round, all-weather visitor attraction about the natural world. It tries to provide something for all ages and levels of interest."

Nicholas Hood, chairman of the Bristol 2000 scheme, which covers these developments on Harbourside, thinks that the project will add £30 million a year to the local economy. This is the first major scheme outside London to be awarded money from the Millennium Commission. It gets £41 million towards the £52 million project and only £2 million of the balance is outstanding.

Louis Sherwood, chairman of HTV and the CPA project, is hoping for similar success with the Arts Council where a bid for £75 million for the performing arts centre has recently been submitted. He expects a reply by May.

The CPA will not only give Bristol the modern concert hall it so badly needs, but also a medium dance theatre — the first facility in Britain to meet the Arts Council specification. There will also be a residential development on the 66-acre Harbourside. Bristol city council and British Gas will shortly be marketing space for 250,000 sq ft of offices.

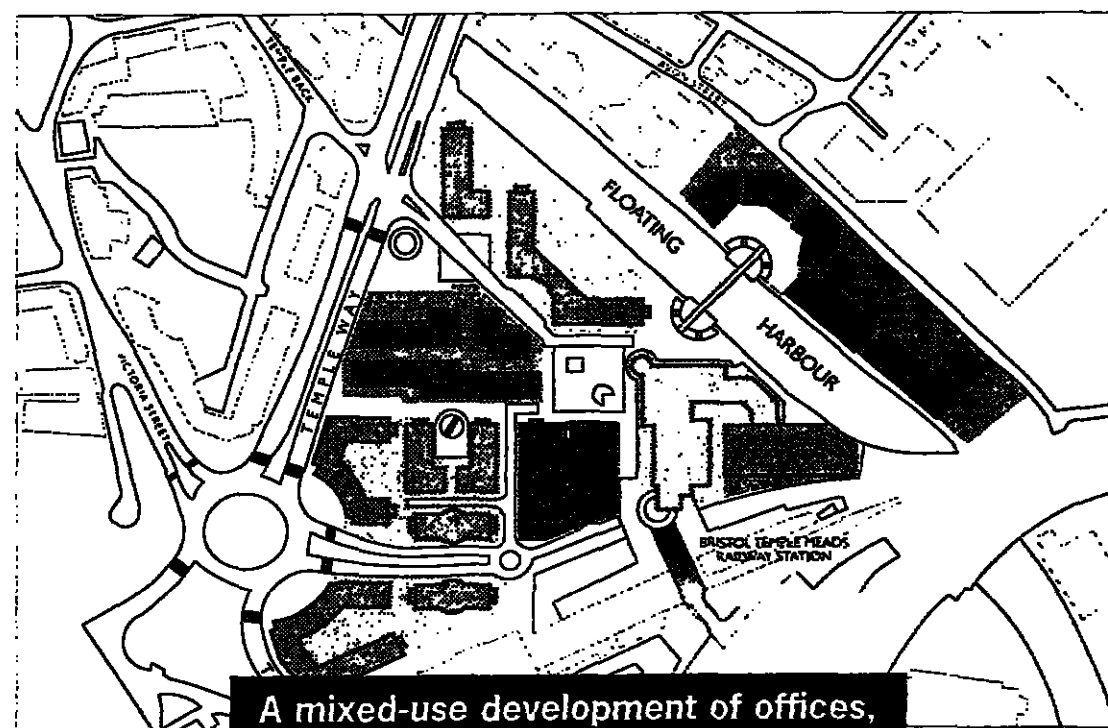
These commercial elements on Harbourside which were planned to help to fund the leisure and art centre components. But because the commercial programme has slipped behind the leisure schemes, English Partnerships has stepped in to provide £19 million to build the public squares, open spaces car park and roads.

Ken Johnson, projects director for English Partnerships, says: "We are acting as the front funder, taking a lot of the risk out of the complicated partnership scheme."



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For further details and an application form please contact Alison Fisher, Personnel Officer, Natural Environment Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1EU. Tel: 01793 411895 or e-mail: amf@nerc.ac.uk Closing date for receipt of completed applications is: 16th December 1996. Interviews will be held on 29th January 1997.

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For further information and application form, please contact: Human Resources, Tower Hamlets College, Poplar High Street, London E14 0AF, quoting reference number CM07. Telephone: 0171 538 4882 (24 hour answerphone) or fax: 0171 537 7182.

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Application forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Personnel Office, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL. Telephone: 0246 223227. e-mail: B.G.Ward@warwick.ac.uk and from Web pages: <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/academic/publications/jobs> quoting reference 145A/96. Closing date for applications 17 December 1996.

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What you should

**How to choose the right sixth-form place**

Anne Lee offers expert advice on making the all-important choice

There is a lot to be said for the sixth form. It is the time when you can really make a difference to your future. It is the time when you can really make a difference to your future. It is the time when you can really make a difference to your future.

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## EDUCATION

What you should ask when your child is ready for A levels and, right, the students who won the best grades

## How to choose the right sixth-form place

Anne Lee offers expert advice on making the all-important decision

Some senior schools do not have a sixth form so choice is forced on its pupils, and some students want to take the opportunity to consider removing the straitjacket of the schooling they have so far received. The choice is between moving on to a specialist sixth-form college, or changing to an independent or state school.

The autumn term is the time when schools hold their sixth-form days. How do you cut through the persuasive presentations to assess the real value of what is offered?

The first place to which many ambitious parents turn is the league table. Though actual results can be a guide to strength and weakness, league table positions may mask outstanding achievements in one school, and overstate success in another. Dig deeper. Assessing teaching quality at a school you know is easier than establishing the quality of teaching elsewhere. A series of excellent A-level results can conceal key weaknesses. I came into contact with one apparently outstanding school where many pupils studied economics and relatively few took maths. The pupils later told me that the mathematics teacher had had a heart attack.

The numbers of pupils opting to study a subject can be as significant as the grades achieved. You may not expect large numbers to study Latin in an academic school, but you would expect maths, English, European languages, history, geography and the sciences to have reasonably strong support.

Parents should look closely at the range of subjects offered, and match it to their child's strengths.

Some 16-year-olds will thrive on a diet of media studies, history of art and photography, others will not be sufficiently challenged. They may need the more traditional "hard" A-level subjects for possible entry to university courses.

If your child has learning difficulties, sympathetic teaching and a policy that allows extra time for internal and external examinations can be essential.

Boarding schools clearly have more time to offer extracurricular opportunities, but parents need again to look behind the rhetoric.

How often do all the clubs and societies actually meet, how many members do they have? What happens at weekends; does the school empty because they are really weekly boarders, or are good staff also on duty then? When is the art room or the computer room open and supervised? Teenagers do not want to be organised all the time, but they should be encouraged to take opportunities, otherwise the wine bar or pub may become the only focal point.

Some sixth-form colleges offer specialist courses. Ben Elton claimed that his education was saved because his parents noticed his obsession with drama and sent him to a sixth-form college to study just that.

Sixth-form colleges can be a relief for some pupils because they offer the chance of a fresh start and to study subjects not offered within the normal curriculum. For some, however, they can be hell because they are often large and anonymous. A dislocated youngster can more easily get academically or socially lost in his type of environment than in a school where staff have known them since they were aged 11 or 13.

Ask about the list of courses and institutions to which past pupils have moved. Ask who gives careers advice and about their experience. Some schools are particularly good at this, and the old boys' or old girls' network can be very strong.

If you are eager for your child to attend a leading university, the statistics on entry tell us that you may be best advised to send them to a state school with a strong tradition of tutoring for interviews to Oxford and Cambridge.

You should certainly find out whether the school you choose can give good careers advice. Some pupils believe they have been marking time until they can go and work, so can the sixth form ensure that they have marketable skills, and perhaps raise their occupational horizons?



A student at a girls' school: would it be best for her to stay in a single-sex environment?

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Disciplinary expectations in sixth forms vary enormously. Sixteen-year-olds need to learn to manage their own freedom — but with safety nets. A good sixth form will have a few rules and methods of monitoring behaviour, but those rules should be clearly communicated and enforced.

Sometimes, pupils at single-sex schools want to move to what they may describe as a "more normal" environment. Coeducation, if the hormones are raging, may be the better option for these teenagers.

The teaching in girls' schools tends to be much more prescribed and organised than in some coeducational or boys' schools. One girl described her move from a girls' grammar to an independent coeducational sixth form as a real test of motivation, akin to going to university. She loved the increased social life, the better facilities and the boarding school ethos but horrified her parents when she casually said: "Of course, I will not get the A-level grades I would have got had I stayed at my old school."

So changing school or staying on is the dilemma. If you let your teenager do the analysis, then check together that all the important points have been covered; the sixth-form years can be an exhilarating but safe step towards adult independence.

At Hills Road, Mr Greenhalgh says: "There is a strong achievement culture here. People say we have got a good intake and we do have a lot of very hard-working and committed students, but we have done a lot of work on added value. We add two full A-level grades per student on average. So someone who would have expected to get three Cs based on their GCSE results would get two Bs and a C here."

The 1,300-student college, founded in 1974, gives priority to youngsters from its immediate area. More than 90 per cent go on to university. However, students say Hills Road is about much more than academic success.

Abigail Clarke, 17, the secretary of the student council, says: "I think all the students are very aware of the Hills Road reputation but the pressure is not immense. There is very much a feeling that staff are on our side. They are all very approachable on any problems — whether they are college-related or otherwise."

## A second place is still winning

David Charter reports on two colleges with remarkable records of success

The influence of the country's most consistently excellent sixth-form college pervaded the top of the examinations league this year despite its fall from first to second place.

Nearly 600 students gained an average of three Bs at A level at Hills Road Sixth Form College in Cambridge. Its best performance since the national tables began in 1992. The 575 students averaged 23.9 A-level points each, up on last year's 21.9.

Hills Road was pipped to the summit of the college table by the 25.3 points averaged by 474 candidates at King Edward VI College in Stourbridge, West Midlands.

Philip Eyles, Principal at Stourbridge, admits that the "Hills Road factor" had a part to play in his own success story. He joined King Edward VI four years ago from his post as Vice-Principal at the Cambridge college. Both he and Colin Greenhalgh, Principal at Hills Road, concede that there is an element of selectivity by both colleges, which gives them an advantage over other colleges.

King Edward VI is oversubscribed by 30 per cent and Hills Road students that students must have Bs at GCSE for the A levels they want to study and relevant Cs for advanced GNVQs.

Mr Eyles says: "The results are impressive because they are obtained by children in a metropolitan borough who generally do not have the advantages of children in the ship counties. We are fed entirely by comprehensive schools and have been able to preserve a very positive work ethic."

"Some people would say that we are too exam-orientated, but there is a huge amount of activity going on — for example, there are three plays this term. It is simply a college where a lot is expected."

At Hills Road, Mr Greenhalgh says: "There is a strong achievement culture here. People say we have got a good intake and we do have a lot of very hard-working and committed students, but we have done a lot of work on added value. We add two full A-level grades per student on average. So someone who would have expected to get three Cs based on their GCSE results would get two Bs and a C here."

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Students at Hills Road: there is a strong achievement culture

## Revealed: secret wish of the century's greatest scientist

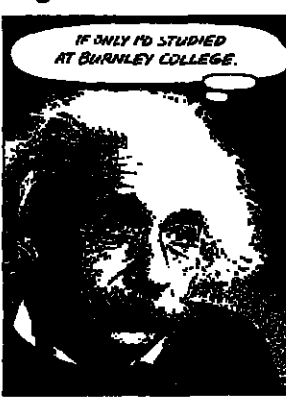
Albert Einstein wishes he had gone to college in Burnley, David Charter writes. The century's most celebrated scientist helps to promote the Lancashire college in advertisements showing a thought balloon that reveals his inner desire to study there.

Burnley's Einstein campaign, now in its third year, broke new ground in the way colleges used quirky advertising in an eye-catching way to win enrolments.

Tom Lemmon, its marketing manager, said: "For the first year we tried the campaign, colleagues inside the college were very unsure. But it seemed to get a big response outside because it was humorous. This year our research showed that the recognition factor was high, and the staff in the college are solidly behind it."

Burnley's lead was followed locally by other colleges using famous faces to sell themselves. Advertising agencies say that colleges are the fastest growth market in education as they vie for students against each other and ambitious school sixth forms. Colleges spend as much as £100,000 a year in the battle to attract students, but some of the more aggressive marketing has fallen foul of the Advertising Standards Authority.

## Einstein's theory of selling yourself



Burnley's advertisement

ernance and management. Birmingham was awarded nine grade 1s and four grade 2s, while Clarendon received 11 grade 1s, six 2s and two 3s. They both averaged 1.5 for curriculum subjects.

Eddie McIntyre, the Birmingham Principal, says: "The governors, students and staff of the college had worked very hard to achieve the inspection result that showed that we are clearly, by any measure, the best college in the country, and we did not want that hard work undermined by a usurper."

Clarendon argued that the claim was made in only one of its leaflets and insisted Birmingham was a specialist institution, and not therefore comparable with a general further education college.

The authority disagreed and ruled that Clarendon could no longer say "According to the FEPC, Clarendon College is the best general FE college in England". But it allowed Clarendon to continue claiming it was "number one for students", because it felt the statement would be viewed as the opinion of the colleges, and not of inspectors.

To some outside the bitterly competitive world of tertiary education, the dispute may seem an exercise in hair-splitting, but the colleges are clearly determined to fight their corners.

Earlier in the year, Warrington Collegiate Institute clashed with Wigan and Leigh College over local press advertisement which claimed: "Wigan and Leigh College definitely the right choice! Government inspectors make it official." It added: "The best college in the North West."

The authority upheld Warrington's complaint because readers might have thought the last statement was made by inspectors. It also pointed out that not all the colleges in the North West had been inspected at that time.

Burnley envisages no such rancour with its Einstein campaign. This year it dressed the scientist in a Star Trek shirt and put the image on buses and beer mats, captioned: "I could have been Captain Kirk if I'd gone to Burnley College." Enrolments went up by 11 per cent.

There is beginning to be a big link between the image of Einstein and Burnley College, said Mr Lemmon. "We definitely have a higher profile because of it. It is also so silly that nobody in their right mind is going to complain. If it raises a smile, you are getting your message across without saying 'We are the best college in the world' or knocking the opposition."

## The question is, why do you need to pay?

Lucy Hodges on a pace-setting college without fees

Why pay school fees when you can send your offspring to a sixth-form college which is good, and free? Significant numbers of parents in north London answer by sending their sons and daughters to Woodhouse College, in Finchley.

Parents are happy, and the students like it because they are treated more as adults, they have the chance to mix with the opposite sex and they get high-class chat in the canteen.

"I am really enjoying it," says Libby Sallnow, who is in the lower sixth and came from a comprehensive school in Southgate. "It is really academic and has the most amazing social life. I have met so many people like me, with really similar interests."

A former grammar school, Woodhouse College, with its beautiful 18th-century building, retains the ethos of an academic institution. The A-level results have improved since its grammar school days and this year the pass rate was 93 per cent.

How does the college manage to compete so effectively with the private sector? The answer is that it selects more than half its 800 students from a wide range of independent and state schools all over north London and turns away several hundred applicants each year. It also gets rid of a few students who are not making the grade at the end of the first year.

discipline and academic success of an old grammar school. Students who come here want to do well. They aspire to go to university and 90 per cent do."

It is made clear to lower-sixth-formers that they must turn up by 8.45am and undertake supervised private study. During some of their free periods at the college and sign a register to prove they are doing so. "They get more work done that way," says Dr Wharton.

Parents are kept informed of their offspring's progress via

"We have kept the structure and the academic success of an old grammar school"

parent evenings and reports. If a problem arises, the college does not hesitate to write home and involve mother and father.

One reason the college is so popular with students, according to Dr Wharton, is that it offers a broader curriculum than many conventional school sixth forms. Students can study the traditional academic subjects at A level, as well as psychology, design, business studies and accounts. They may also do a wide range of A/S levels, including philosophy, law, and information technology.

Vocational courses — the diploma of vocational education and GNVQs — are provided for 60 students who are not following the academic route and who come largely from the two feeder schools in the neighbourhood.

All students are carefully counselled, belonging to a tutor group led by a personal tutor who meets students daily and for an hour's tutorial once a week. The tutor's job is to get to know students well, give them general advice, help with individual problems and with their work.

Dr Wharton believes that this pastoral system is the key to the college's success.

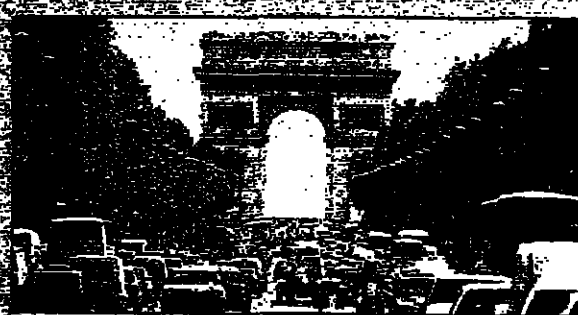
His main regret is the college's physical condition. Funding arrangements mean that money is tight. The science laboratories need upgrading and the library and study facilities are cramped. The students need a common room and the art room is inadequate. But there are plans for money to be raised for major rebuilding.

The physical drawbacks do not seem to deter parents. Basil Samuels, a parent governor, whose daughter, Laura, was previously at City of London School for Girls in the Barbican, says he is delighted with it. "Students," he says, "are so enthusiastic, despite the laboratories and the classrooms and the library."

Not all students, however, are universally admiring. One former student now at university was critical of some of the teaching. She claimed that it was more old-fashioned than it needed to be.

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## Liability for deceit of wrongdoer

**Smith New Court Securities Ltd v Scrimgeour Vickers (Asset Management) Ltd and Another**

Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley and Lord Steyn

[Speeches November 21]  
Where deceit was practised by an intentional wrongdoer he was liable for the actual damage which directly flowed from the fraudulent inducement without reference to the transaction date by any other date, and foreseeability of such damage was irrelevant.

Where the plaintiff was truly locked into the transaction and there was a sufficient causal link between the fraudulent inducement and the plaintiff's loss, he was to be compensated for all the actual loss suffered by him from the inducement, including all consequential losses, and a loss was to be measured by comparing his position before the inducement with the position he was in because of his reliance on it. The plaintiff had to give credit for any benefit he received, including the market value of the asset as at the date of acquisition. He was required to take reasonable steps to mitigate the loss on discovering the fraud.

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Smith New Court Securities Ltd, and dismissing a cross-appeal by the second defendant, Citibank NA, from a decision dated February 17, 1994 of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Rose and Lord Justice Hoffmann) (The Times March 8, 1994; [1994] 1 WLR 1271).

That court had allowed an appeal by Citibank from an order of Mr Justice Chadwick (The Times April 7, 1992; [1992] BCLC 1104) and varied the order, substituting £1,040,000, for £10,764,000 awarded by the judge on Smith by way of damages.

On July 21, 1989 Mr Roberts, representative of Citibank, which was acting as broker for Scrimgeour Vickers, made fraudulent misrepresentations: first, that

in buying shares in Ferranti International plc, a public company, Smith would be competing with two other bidders; second, when invited to a meeting where Smith were aiming to make an offer, Mr Roberts wrongly stated that he would disclose the competing bids after Smith had made the bid and third, he mentioned that two other named companies had made bids.

Smith bought, for about £23 million, over 23 million shares in Ferranti for £2.25p each with a view to holding them as a market making risk and only selling them as and when an appropriate opportunity arose.

By September 1989 it became known that Mr Guerini had practised fraud on Ferranti. That caused a slump in the value of Ferranti's shares. Between November 20, 1989 and April 30, 1990 Smith sold the shares in small parcels for 40p to 30p per share. It only received nearly £11 million. Smith brought an action against Scrimgeour Vickers, to which Citibank was added as the second defendant, for damages.

The judge found, dismissing the action against Scrimgeour Vickers that Smith was induced to enter into an agreement to buy the shares in Ferranti by false and fraudulent representations made by Citibank's representative, Christopher Nigel Roberts. He decided that Smith was entitled to recover damages of £10,764,000, together with interest, from Citibank. That sum represented the difference between the price paid by Smith and the true value of the shares.

Scrimgeour Vickers took no part in the appeal.

Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Mr Anthony Mann, QC, for Citibank; Mr Anthony Grabner, QC, Mr Ian Glick, QC and Mr John McCaughan for Smith.

LORD BROWNE-WILKINSON, agreeing with Lord Steyn, added that the law as laid down in cases decided at the end of the nineteenth century, usually in relation to shares purchased in reliance on a fraudulent prospectus, was that, where a fraudulent misrepresentation had induced the plaintiff to enter into a contract of purchase, the measure of damages was, in general, the difference between the contract price and the true open market value of the property purchased, valued as at the date of the contract of purchase: see *Togores v Grant* (1877) 4 CPD 469; *Waddell v Bickley* (1877) 4 QBD 678; *Peck v Derry* (1887) 37 ChD 541.

In *Clark v Unihart* (1930) AC 28, 67-68 Lord Atkin cast doubt on whether the measure of damages laid down in those cases was correct. *Doble v Oily (Ironmongers) Ltd* (1969) 2 QJ 158 restated the law correctly and rightly decided four points:

First, that the measure of damages where a contract had been induced by fraudulent misrepresentation was for the actual damage directly flowing from entering into the transaction.  
Second, that in assessing such damages it was not an inflexible rule that the plaintiff must bring into account the value as at the transaction date of the asset acquired.  
Third, damages for deceit were not limited to those which were reasonably foreseeable.  
Fourth, the damages recoverable could include consequential loss suffered by reason of having acquired the asset.

In the light of the modern authorities the nineteenth-century cases could no longer be treated as laying down a strict and inflexible rule. In many cases, even in deceit, it was a rule of measure to value the asset acquired as at the transaction date if that truly reflected the value of what the plaintiff had obtained.

In sum, the following principles applied in assessing damages recoverable where the plaintiff had been induced by a fraudulent misrepresentation to buy property: 1 The defendant was bound to make reparation for all the damage directly flowing from the transaction.  
2 Although such damage need not have been foreseeable, it must

have been directly caused by the transaction.  
3 In assessing such damage, the plaintiff was entitled to recover by way of damages the full price paid by him, but he must give credit for any benefit which he had received as a result of the transaction.  
4 As a general rule, the benefits received by him included the market value of the property acquired as at the date of acquisition but such general rule was not to be inflexibly applied where to do so would prevent him obtaining full compensation for the wrong suffered.  
5 Although the circumstances in which the general rule should not apply could not be comprehensively stated, it would normally not apply where either (a) the misrepresentation had continued to operate after the date of the acquisition of the asset or (b) the circumstances of the case were such that the plaintiff was, by reason of the fraud, locked into the transaction.

6 In addition, the plaintiff was entitled to recover consequential losses caused by the transaction.  
7 The plaintiff had to take all reasonable steps to mitigate his loss once he had discovered the fraud.

LORD MUSTILL, agreeing with Lord Steyn, added that notwithstanding the high authority of his source, the judgment of Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, in *Doble v Oily (Ironmongers) Ltd* could not be regarded as an inflexible guide to the assessment of damages for deceit. The appeal there was not fully argued by counsel. The judgments were not reversed and did not sit very easily together.

His Lordship suggested that in the future when faced with situations such as the present, courts would do well to be guided by the three propositions set out by Lord Browne-Wilkinson in the letter part of his speech. The fourth and fifth of those were simply sufficient to show that the damages awarded by the judge ought to be upheld.

LORD STEYN said that on the facts the second and third

exceptions to the general rule of admissibility.  
8 The fact that an employee or an officer of a company gave evidence did not normally mean that the company was taking part in the action.  
9 A judge should be alert to the possibility that an application against a non-party was motivated by resentment of an inability to recover costs against a legally aided litigant. The fourth and fifth of those were simply sufficient to show that the damages awarded by the judge ought to be upheld.

Mr Rubin invited his Lordship to exercise his discretion in favour of the plaintiffs on the ground that Mr Crawford, apart from being intimately involved in the litigation from the start, had acted in bad faith by conducting false claims supported by forged documents, making inadequate discovery which included the destruction or suppression of documents, and giving untrue evidence.

He submitted that it was bad faith which brought the case within the exceptional category and relied on Lord Justice Balcombe's summary of that point (at pp191-192B) of decisions following *Aiden Shipping Co Ltd v Interbulk Ltd* (1986) AC 965.

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## Liability for structural works causing damage

**Louis v Sadig**  
Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Aldous

[Judgment November 12]  
A building owner who undertook structural building works affecting a party wall without complying with the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939, and thereby caused damage to adjoining property, was liable to the owners of the adjoining property for damages for nuisance, including special damages incurred through loss of sale of the property.

The fact that the building owner had complied with the Act did not constitute him from or reduce his liability for a pre-existing nuisance which continued thereafter, unless and until the works which created the nuisance were subsequently authorised by agreement or by subsequent orders of the court.

The Court of Appeal so held in an appeal by the defendant, Mohamed Sadig, against the order of Judge Patten at Stratford County Court on May 16, 1995, whereby he awarded the plaintiffs, Paul and Paula Louis, damages in respect of the defendant's nuisance, including £22,762 mortgage interest payable between November 1, 1993 and November 1, 1994, and £15,000 damages for distress and inconvenience in respect of a separate item.

Ms Ann McAllister for the defendant; Mr David Gervey for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that the appeal raised issues concerning the rights and duties of neighbours whose properties were divided by a party wall. Being in London, the properties were regulated by the London Building Acts (Amendment) Act 1939.

The defendant owned 50 Jenner Road, Stoke Newington, London, an eight-storey house. His neighbours at number 52 were the plaintiffs.

Early in the summer of 1988, the defendant told Mr Louis that he wanted to build a small further extension to the rear of his property. Mr Louis said he had no objection and heard no more about it.

In August 1988 the defendant began demolition and reconstruction works involving the whole of his house, including demolition of the rear part of the wall, which interfered with the party wall. Damage was caused to number 52, including cracks in its front wall.

The plaintiffs issued a writ and obtained an injunction restraining the defendant from carrying out any works of demolition or reconstruction of his house which would interfere with the party wall. The defendant had not given the

generally acceptable and publication can only be justified when in the public interest. Private property is defined as those parts of a hospital where patients are treated or accommodated.

Mr Michael Bellof, QC and Mr Richard Clayton for the applicant; Mr David Pannick, QC and Mr Michael Fordham for the PCC.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the application had arisen out of an article in The Sun to the effect that the applicant was being treated in a wholly inappropriate way given the serious nature of his convictions.

The applicant accepted that he could not complain about the article but he did complain about the fact that it contained a substantial, albeit indirect, photograph of him standing by a window in the special hospital.

It was at least arguable that the PCC was a body which was subject to judicial review. That point should not be determined on an application for leave.

The question was whether the applicant had an arguable case that publication of the photo was a

contravention of the code. In particular clause 4 on privacy. It was important to remember the background to the case. The article had been justified because there was a public interest in how people who had committed such crimes were being treated. The question was whether an individual's privacy was being invaded in a way which would otherwise be justified.

In his Lordship's judgment, the commission had been entitled to come to the conclusion that if there had been any breach of the code it did not warrant censure. If there had been a breach, it was certainly not a serious breach or one which would have affected the applicant any more than if the newspaper had used a photograph from its library.

If the court did have jurisdiction over the commission, it was important that that jurisdiction should be reserved for clear rather than merely technical breaches of the code. Accordingly, the application would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Millett gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Potter agreed.

Solicitors: B. M. Birnberg & Co, Southampton; Sheridans.

Law agents: Macbeth Currie & Co for Hughes Dowdall, Glasgow; Simpson & Marwick, W8; Dunlop & Wilson, CS.

## Exceptional order for costs against non-party

**H. Leverton Ltd v Crawford Offshore (Exploration) Services Ltd (in liquidation)**

Before Mr Justice Garland  
[Judgment October 11]

Although exceptional, it was appropriate to order costs against a non-party where the non-party was a director who had, in the management of an action for an insolvent litigant, where the director financed the proceedings to a substantial extent and improperly caused the company to defend the claim and to prosecute a connected counterclaim.

Mr Justice Garland so held in the Queen's Bench Division at the Central Criminal Court, ordering Christopher Richard Crawford of 22 Gypsy Lane, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, to pay a proportion of the costs incurred on an indemnity basis, by the plaintiffs, H. Leverton Ltd, in their action against the defendant company, Crawford Offshore (Exploration) Services Ltd, now in liquidation.

On July 30, Mr Justice Garland gave judgment for the plaintiffs against the company in the sum of £144,085 and ruled that the identity of the defendant company's solicitors be not disclosed.

Mr Stephen Rubin for the plaintiffs; Mr Alan Green for Mr Crawford.

MR JUSTICE GARLAND said that following the judgment in the main action the plaintiffs sought orders for costs against Mr Crawford personally, although they did not put him on notice, and against the defendant's solicitors, who were put on notice, under section 51 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, as substituted by section 4(1) of the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990.

His Lordship had made an order for the plaintiffs' costs of the claim and counterclaim against the defendant company as an indemnity basis. That order would be worthless as the company was in liquidation.

The defendant company's solicitors, without any admission of liability had agreed to pay a substantial but confidential sum to the plaintiffs. That sum, together with £35,000 deposited by Mr Crawford by way of security for costs, still left a shortfall of £105,000.

Mr Crawford was not a party to original action. However, he was the defendant company for all practical purposes. He was the sole decision-maker and kept the only records of the company produced on discovery and he gave evidence and was present throughout the hearing. Mr Crawford's connection with the proceedings was so

close that it was inconceivable that he would suffer any injustice.

The discretion given by section 51 of the Supreme Court Act 1981, as substituted, was a general one, albeit exercised according to established principles, not subject to any Rules of the Supreme Court.

The principles were set out by Lord Justice Balcombe in *Symphony Group plc v Hodgson* (The Times May 4, 1993; [1993] QB 179, 1924-1947) as follows:

1 An order against a non-party was exceptional and should be approached with caution.  
2 It would be even more exceptional where the applicant for costs had a cause of action against the non-party and could have joined him in the action.

3 Even if the applicant had good reason for not joining the non-party, he should be viewed at the earliest opportunity of the intention to seek an order so as to give him the opportunity of applying to be joined as a party.

His Lordship said that 4 and 5 were irrelevant and 7 did not apply.

Findings of fact in the action were prima facie admissible against a non-party and might only be adopted against him if his connection with the original proceedings was so close that he would not suffer any injustice by allowing

that exception to the general rule of admissibility.

8 The fact that an employee or an officer of a company gave evidence did not normally mean that the company was taking part in the action.

9 A judge should be alert to the possibility that an application against a non-party was motivated by resentment of an inability to recover costs against a legally aided litigant. The fourth and fifth of those were simply sufficient to show that the damages awarded by the judge ought to be upheld.

Mr Rubin invited his Lordship to exercise his discretion in favour of the plaintiffs on the ground that Mr Crawford, apart from being intimately involved in the litigation from the start, had acted in bad faith by conducting false claims supported by forged documents, making inadequate discovery which included the destruction or suppression of documents, and giving untrue evidence.

He submitted that it was bad faith which brought the case within the exceptional category and relied on Lord Justice Balcombe's summary of that point (at pp191-192B) of decisions following *Aiden Shipping Co Ltd v Interbulk Ltd* (1986) AC 965.

Mr Green relied on *Shah v*

## Judge in charge of court proceedings

**McDonald's Corporation and Another v Steel and Another**

An appeal against the decision of a trial judge setting a date for closing submissions would not be allowed unless he had exercised his discretion so as to result in a denial of justice.

Findings of fact in the action were prima facie admissible against a non-party and might only be adopted against him if his connection with the original proceedings was so close that he would not suffer any injustice by allowing

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Marie Steel and David Morris, from a decision of Mr Justice Bell on October 7, 1995 in the course of the libel action brought against them by McDonald's Corporation and McDonald's Restaurants Ltd.

LORD JUSTICE HURST said the judge had ordered the defendants, who were appearing in person in the action, to begin their closing submissions on speed, and the defendants argued that to do so would create injustice because they were not ready, relying on *Maxwell v Keen* (1928) 1 KB 645.

If it became clear to the judge in the course of their submissions that some special difficulty had arisen for the defendants he still had the power to take appropriate steps.

The event had been recorded on video and accordingly there was little dispute as to the precise circumstances. The enclosure had been separated from the pitch by a track approximately eight feet wide and a strip of turf to the byline approximately 30m wide.

The pursuer had charge of 10 officers spaced around the track. She had panicked the whole area. From the time of the incident, some trouble had occurred in section of crowd, and the pursuer had sent two officers into the crowd to deal with it. While she was standing with her back to the pitch, watching that event unfold, a Celtic player, in endeavouring to control the course of the incident, had departed from the pitch at a fast rate of speed and had cannoned into the back of the pursuer with such force that she was propelled from her standing position at the pitch-side edge of the track right across it, and into the barrier at the bottom of the enclosure.

The relevant general standing orders of the Glasgow Football Club provided that one of the pursuer's duties had been not to be a spectator at the match, but to

police the crowd. It was clear that neither the police nor the club had ever even addressed the question of whether there was any risk to spectators of police officers in the track of collisions with players.

There had been evidence from witnesses with considerable experience of football that no such incidents could be recalled, apart from unspecified, hearsay evidence of an injury to a steward at Sunderland some 17 years ago, which his Lordship had dismissed.

The pursuer's case was that the club should have erected a barrier between the pitch and the track. In addressing the nature and quantification of the risk of such an accident to the pursuer, his Lordship had concluded that it had been foreseeable, but sufficiently small as not to warrant any precautions from a reasonable man addressing it.

He did so having regard to the absence of previous incidents and the extraordinary concentration of circumstances that led to this most unfortunate incident, namely, the facts that the pursuer was looking

at the crowd because of an incident taking place involving her men; that the player came off the pitch at such speed out of control; and that he did so with sufficient force actually to cause injury.

Even if the risk was generally identifiable, so that the precise mechanisms need not be foreseen, there had been evidence of a lack of any previous such incident across the whole spectrum of football.

The literally thousands of hours police officers had to spend in positions similar to the pursuer rendered the risk so minimal that it could be ignored: see *Bolton v Stone* (1951) AC 850, 869 per Lord Radcliffe.

His Lordship was equally of the view with regard to the first defender that a warning or instruction to officers to keep an eye on the pitch would not have made the slightest difference to the actual event.

That was both because of its mechanics, since it seemed highly unlikely that even if the pursuer had observed the player coming towards her she would have been able to get out of the way, but even more importantly because she would have been bound in terms of her duties to have been looking at the crowd at the time because of what was going on.

## Scots Law Report November 22 1996 Outer House

## Risk of injury to constable at match too remote

**Gillon v Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police and Another**

Before Lord Johnston  
[Judgment October 9]

There was a foreseeable risk that a police constable watching the spectators at a football match would be injured by a player who was expelled from the pitch in the course of the game, but the risk was so small that a reasonable man would not guard against it. In any event, it would be unreasonable to require the proprietors of the football ground to erect a barrier between the players and the pitch-side track.

Lord Johnston, sitting in the Outer House of the Court of Session, so held, absolving the Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police and the Airdrieonians Football Club of liability to make reparation to Mrs Rachel Anne Gillon.

Mr David Burns for the pursuer; Mr Michael Jones, QC and Mr Graham Paterson for the constable; Mr Derek Enrie, QC and Mr Andrew Young for the football club.

LORD JOHNSTON said that the pursuer, in the course of her duties as a police sergeant, had been engaged in crowd control

duties at a football match when she had suffered certain injuries, for which damages had been agreed at £25,000.

The event had been recorded on video and accordingly there was little dispute as to the precise circumstances. The enclosure had been separated from the pitch by a track approximately eight feet wide and a strip of turf to the byline approximately 30m wide.

The pursuer had charge of 10 officers spaced around the track. She had panicked the whole area. From the time of the incident, some trouble had occurred in section of crowd, and the pursuer had sent two officers into the crowd to deal with it. While she was standing with her back to the pitch, watching that event unfold, a Celtic player, in endeavouring to control the course of the incident, had departed from the pitch at a fast rate of speed and had cannoned into the back of the pursuer with such force that she was propelled from her standing position at the pitch-side edge of the track right across it, and into the barrier at the bottom of the enclosure.

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police the crowd. It was clear that neither the police nor the club had ever even addressed the question of whether there was any risk to spectators of police officers in the track of collisions with players.

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THE TIMES FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22 1996

# Queen removes Princess's name from prayers

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE QUEEN yesterday issued a royal warrant in which she removed the name of Diana, Princess of Wales from the prayers for the Royal Family used in Church of England services.

The Queen, Supreme Governor of the Church, has decreed that the words "Charles Prince of Wales" will replace the words "the Prince and Princess of Wales".

This returns the form of the church's official state prayers, set out in the 1980 *Alternative Service Book*, to what it was before the 1981 royal marriage.

The Princess's name has already been removed from prayers said in the House of Commons. In synagogues, where prayers are said each Saturday for the Royal Family after the reading of the *Torah*, mention of the Princess was excised shortly after her divorce became final in August



this year. Methodists and some Roman Catholics pray for the Queen and the Royal Family, but have never referred specifically to the Princess so the difficulty has not arisen.

The warrant has been issued at a time when many churchgoers believe that the Princess, and the Duchess of York, need the prayers of the

nation more than ever.

The Right Rev Gordon Bates, Bishop of Whithy, said: "When you get a breakdown of a marriage, there is no such thing as an innocent party. We actually need to pray for both sides of the family. However, although they still need our prayers, they do not need to be referred to by name. They are still part of the family. In fact, these prayers are very, very rarely used in most churches these days."

However, the Rev Stephen Trotter, a member of the General Synod, said: "This is an automatic thing and there is no slight intended. It is just a routine tidying up. I don't think many of the clergy pray for the Princess of Wales anyway. And I don't think she is a regular churchgoer anyway, so she is not going to notice it very much."

According to a statement from Lambeth Palace, her name has been removed from the state prayers "as a necessary matter of form now that the marriage has ended."

The statement continued: "The Archbishops of Canterbury and York wish to stress that, although the Princess will no longer be singled out for special mention by name, she is of course included in the phrase 'and all the Royal Family', for whom prayers are provided in the church services. Clergy and other ministers, and their congregations, also remain free to single out any member of the Royal Family in their general intercessions."

Tory MP Sir Teddy Taylor last night described the decision as "cold and cruel". He said: "One of the sad features of public life is that the Princess of Wales, who makes an enormous contribution to so many worthwhile causes, gets so little sympathy in return."

Dame Jill Knight, Conservative MP for Edgbaston, commented: "I feel strongly that she needs praying for very badly indeed."

## New Bible comes with money-back guarantee

A BIBLE whose watchword is political correctness, where Jesus tells his disciples to become "fishers of men and women" rather than just men, has been published with a money-back guarantee for those who do not like the language.

The Bible, which retains the male gender for God, Jesus and demons but changes other terms such as "craftsmen" to "skilled workers", has been revised to ensure that women readers do not feel excluded by its language.

Instead of "man does not live by bread alone", Jesus says: "People do not live on bread alone. 'Workmen' have become 'workers' and words such as 'maid' or 'girl' have been changed.

However, the New International Version Bible, published by Hodder &

Stoughton, is expected to be well-received, having been given the endorsement of two leading evangelicals in the Church of England.

Elaine Storkey, an adviser to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, said: "This Bible faithfully presents to us the biblical texts, and makes it wonderfully accessible to a wider than ever readership in our changing society."

Dr John Stott, rector emeritus of All Souls' church, London, a leading evangelical church, said: "The revisers have done their work with skill and sensitivity and without in the process developing a clumsy, ponderous or repetitive style."

Those who disagree, however, can get their money back by returning the Bible with a receipt to the place of purchase.

## Businessman accused of plot to kill Harvey Smith

By A STAFF REPORTER

A RACING tipster who had a business feud with Harvey Smith, the former Olympic showjumper, planned to kill him with a crossbow, a court was told yesterday.

Magistrates at Keighley, west Yorkshire, were told that the threat by Peter Snowden, 50, came to light after he had complained to a fellow businessman of his difficult relationship with Mr Smith.

Heidi Standfast, for the prosecution, said that Mr Snowden, of Ingrow, near Keighley, had disclosed his desire to kill Mr Smith during a meeting with a man called Kevin MacDonald.

It was alleged that Mr MacDonald had been approached by Mr Snowden,

using an alias, to ask whether he wanted to buy shares in two racehorses. During the conversation, Mr Snowden mentioned the crossbow and boasted of having been a crack shot when he was in the Army.

He is alleged to have told Mr MacDonald that he had been watching Mr Smith, who farms and trains horses on the moors above Bingley, in his day-to-day dealings. The jury was told that he said: "I would like to take Harvey Smith out. Just imagine, the man is driving down, the next thing he is dead."

Police arrested Mr Snowden in August after he was released from a six-month sentence for making malicious calls to a former business

partner. He is charged with making threats to kill Mr Smith and with obtaining property by deception. Steven Couch, for Mr Snowden, said his client had made his money from a racing telephone service and that his business would suffer if he were not granted bail.

He said that a High Court action against Mr Smith was imminent and that it would suit the former showjumping champion "down to the ground" if his client was returned to custody.

Mr Snowden, who did not enter a plea to the charges, was granted bail on condition that he does not contact Mr Smith or his wife and does not go within a mile of their home.



Marion Leithead with some of her sheep, which she looks on as her babies: "I am very protective of them, which I can't imagine a man being"

## One woman and her sheep round up top title

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

A WOMAN has beaten 100 male competitors to win a coveted shepherd of the year award. Marion Leithead, 50, was out as usual yesterday tending her flock of 50 Jacob sheep at Carvin, in the Borders region, despite hailstorms and a biting cold wind. Last week she was proclaimed the 1996 Borders Shep-

herd of the Year, a male preserve for more than 20 years.

Mrs Leithead, who combines shepherding with being managing director of a building contractors, said: "My husband Frank and I never had children, so I look upon my sheep as my babies. I am very protective of them, which I can't imagine a man being. I'm not saying women make better shepherds but perhaps they are

more motherly towards their flock."

There is nothing more satisfying, she says, than seeing her sheep rushing to meet her as she delivers their feed before dawn on a freezing winter's morning. "It's not an easy life but I wouldn't swap it for the world. I start each day just after 5am, when I go out on my four-wheeled farm bike and check on them. I try to be at the office by 7am and spend a couple of

hours there before coming back to check on the sheep again. Then I go back to the office, spend my lunchtime at home checking on the sheep, go back to the office again after lunch, and, of course, check on the sheep again both before and after Frank and I have our tea." Mrs Leithead said that she never failed to be moved by the sight of a ewe with its new lamb.

UP TO

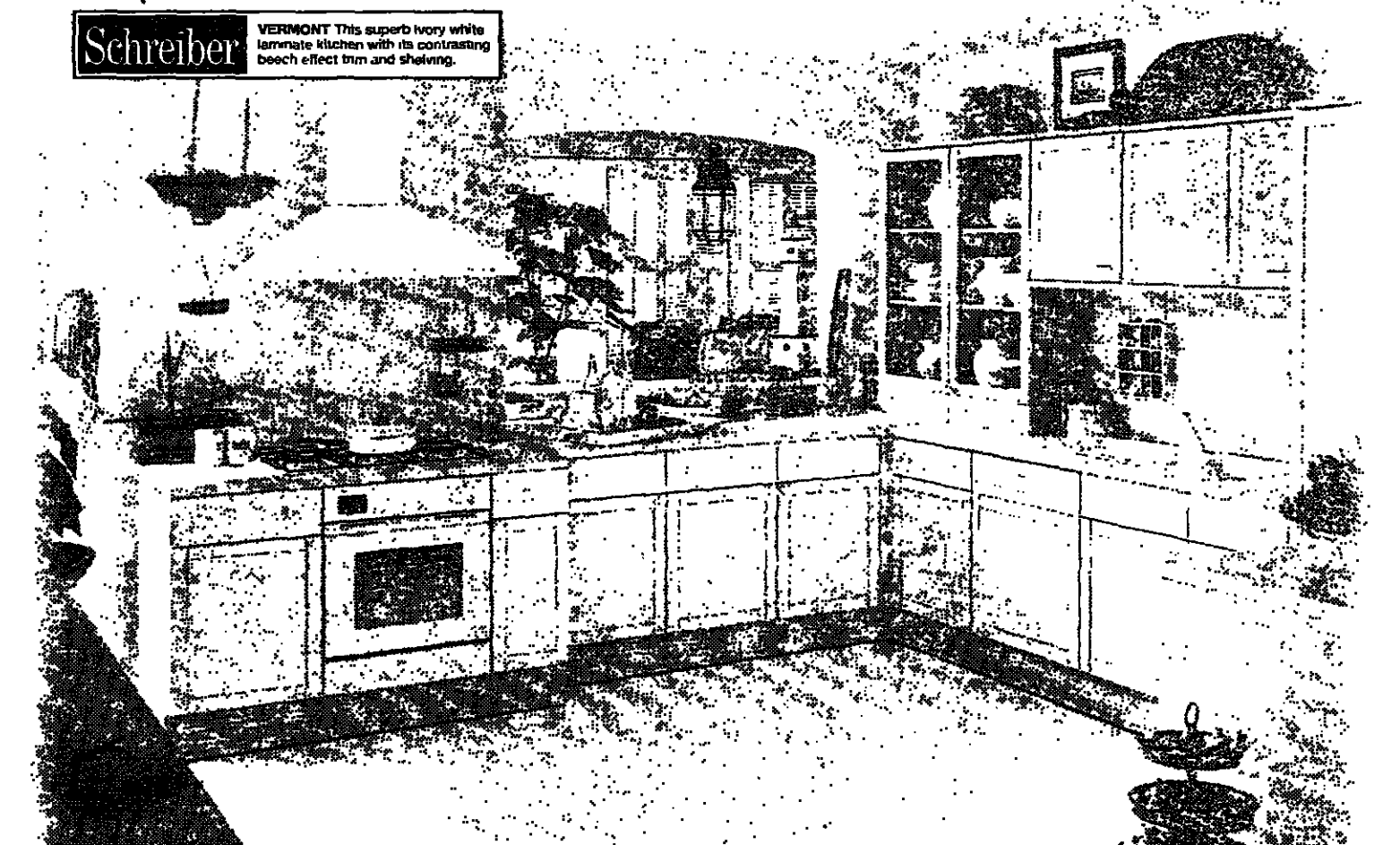
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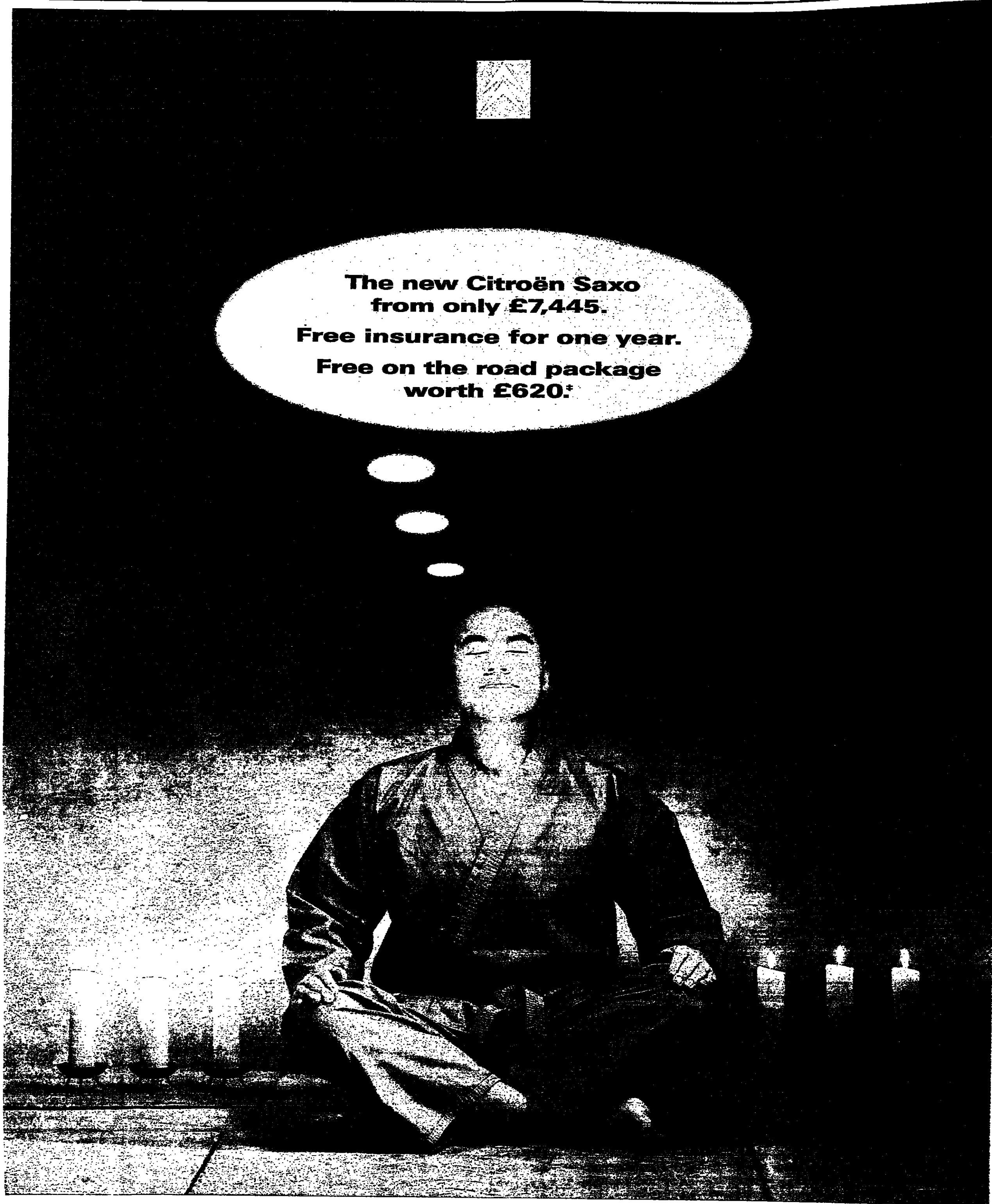
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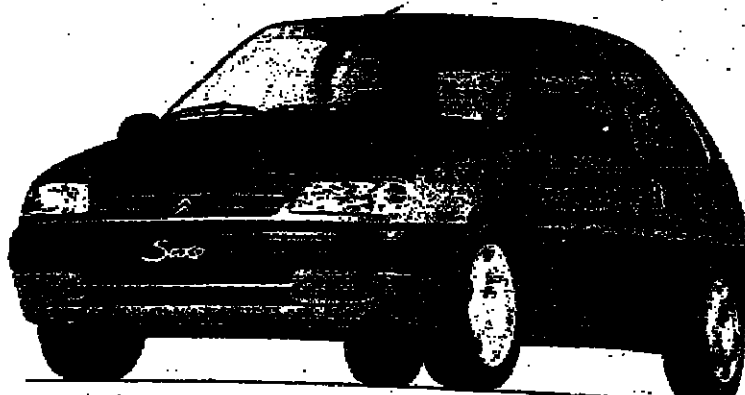
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## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### P... pick up a press pack

THREE backs from *Sunday Business* spent an overnight in Marylebone police station, after they were caught marauding through London Zoo in the middle of the night.

Anil Bhoyrul, acting editor, was lucky enough to escape, after an army of police put an end to the boisterous fun. Charlie Carr, ringleader and head of advertising at the rag, led the drunken pack straight to the penguins. Curiously, this wasn't Carr's first midnight foray to the zoo. He once famously picked up a feathered friend and smuggled it back to his home in a blue hollyhock. Carr plopped it in his bath, fed it on fishfingers, then returned it to the zoo the next day.

### Page marked

BARBARA ROCHE was made to feel most unwelcome at this week's small business conference in Birmingham. On her arrival, the Shadow Small Business Minister was hurried into a nearby waiting room. Contrary to the conference-billing, Roche did not appear on the platform with Richard Page, Small Business Minister. Instead, at Page's request, she wasn't allowed on stage until he had been ushered out of a different entrance, ensuring their paths would not cross. Page's office denies that this was the reason. But Roche snarled: "Richard needn't have worried - I would have been very gentle with him."

### Conversion due

JOLLY John Astle is joining the dream team at Lowe Bell Financial after almost three years as a director of Dewe Rogerson. I am told that this is a marriage made in heaven. Dewe Rogerson looks after Bristol & West, while Lowe Bell takes care of Bank of Ireland. Honest Astle, still in the pay of his present employers, decided an invitation to party with his new colleagues this week. He tells us that he will wait until his contract starts on February 1, earnestly adding: "I want to see the Woolwich conversion right through to the end."



"I started by pushing the wife's trolley around"

EVER wondered what happens to goods bought with stolen credit cards? From now, the repossessed items will be donated to Gifts in Kind, the charity launched yesterday by the Prince of Wales.

### Deferred

LONG faces at Fleming Investment Management after a Christmas shopping spree had to be cancelled. An all-female team from Flemings was looking forward to an away-day in Paris, entertaining women pension fund consultants on the Eurostar. But because of this week's tunnel trouble, next Tuesday's trip has been postponed. Instead, the canny ladies are saving their pennies for a new year sales sortie.

RAILTRACK and London Transport are selling their umbrellas mountain to commuters today, to raise money for Children in Need. More than 1,000 last property umbrellas will be on sale at 14 stations around Britain.

MORAG PRESTON

# How to raise taxes by £5bn and win a fifth term in office

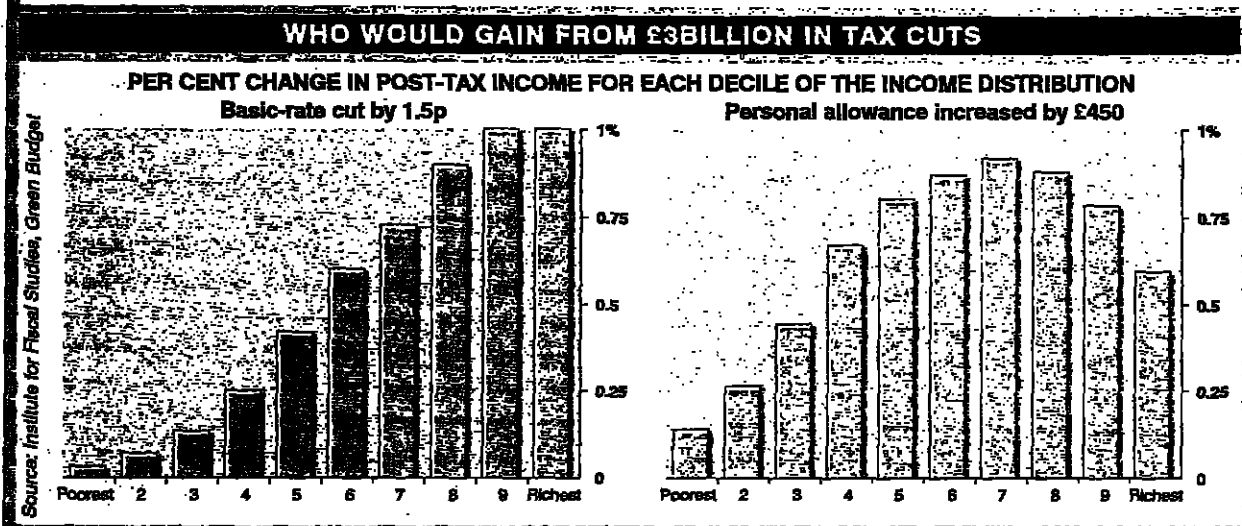
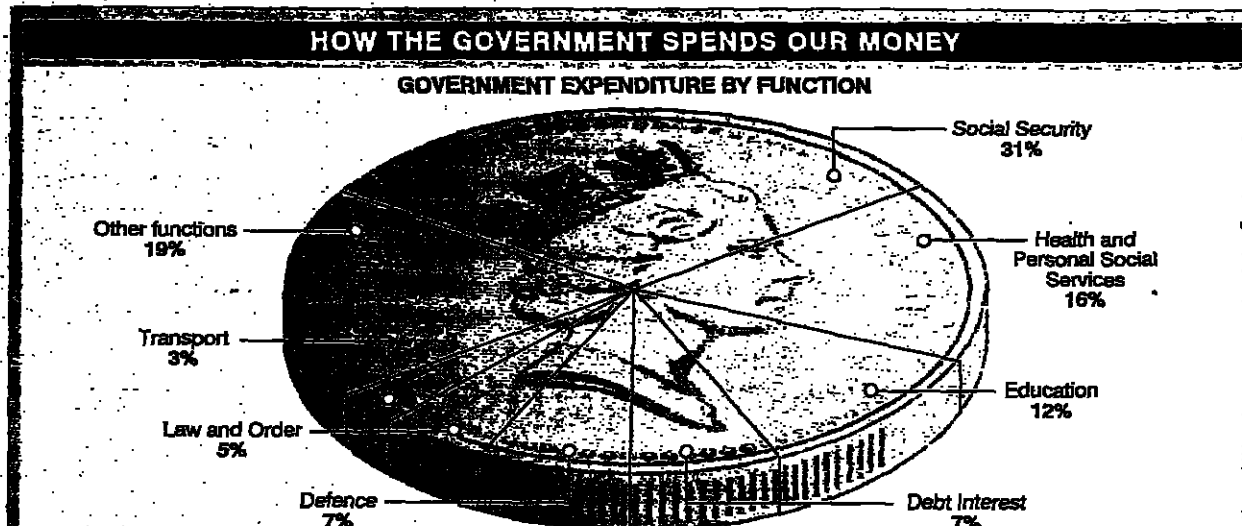
## The Budget could leave Tories with £3bn of election sweeteners

LAST week I argued that the best service that Kenneth Clarke could do for the country in the Budget next week would be to announce a tax increase of £5 billion. The task for this column is to propose a package of measures that could plausibly achieve this result. First, a word about public spending. As I noted last week, demand could also be restrained by reducing public spending, rather than merely restricting its rate of growth as Mr Clarke has proposed. In the long run, all kinds of substantial savings could doubtless be achieved. But those who insist that today's economic dilemmas can simply be resolved by cutting public spending must answer two major objections.

First, experience suggests that governments (especially Tory governments) understate public spending pressures in their Budgets (especially in pre-election Budgets). Whatever the Chancellor announces next week, the chances are that the out-turn will be higher. It would therefore be rash to rely on even more ambitious targets for administrative savings and wage restraint than the ones Mr Clarke has already set. Genuine cuts are bound to be particularly difficult before elections, because the great bulk of public money is not spent on subsidising scoundrels or paying civil servants, but on very popular programmes (see top chart).

Secondly, and more fundamentally, public spending needs to be planned in long cycles: government programmes cannot be turned on and off like a tap. There may indeed be a strong case for long-term reforms in social security, child benefits and education financing, as well as for further cuts in defence spending. If such reforms could be implemented, large permanent tax cuts would be justified, but only when the savings were actually achieved. The key problem for the Budget next week, however, is to restrain demand in the next year, not in the next century. To do that would require immediate cuts in public spending - and it is hard to see where ministers could suddenly discover large overnight savings that Tory governments have missed for the past 17 years.

Without implying for a moment that the Government should slacken its efforts to root out "waste, fraud and abuse", the conclusion must be



that there is only one recourse, apart from raising interest rates, to restrain demand in the short-term. This is to increase taxes. A net tax increase of around £5 billion in next week's Budget would take enough demand out of the economy to remove any threat of inflation and obviate any further rise in interest rates. In fact, a fiscal tightening on this scale would probably allow interest rates to be reduced by a half point immediately and then to be pushed even lower, towards the levels prevailing in Germany and France, if demand continued to slow.

How, then, could a government raise an extra £5 billion in taxes, in today's economic and political environment? "Very easily". Here are a few modest proposals.

□ The present buoyancy of the housing market, combined with the possibility of cutting interest rates in a fiscally tough Budget offers an ideal opportunity to abolish mortgage interest relief at source (MIRAS). I have criticised past reductions in MIRAS in these columns on the grounds that the Government was kicking a weak housing market when it was already down. But economic policy is all about timing: a measure that was dangerous when the economy was weak would be sensible when mortgage borrowing is booming and house prices are rising. Abolishing MIRAS would raise £3 billion annually. Yet this tax increase would be almost painless if a tight

Budget were combined with a half-point reduction in interest rates. MIRAS is worth £315 a year to most homeowners. But a half-point cut in interest rates would reduce the cost of an average £55,000 mortgage by £275. The net cost to an average household would thus be £40 a year. This could be recouped through other measures, as suggested below.

□ Two other large sources of tax revenue are crying out for the Chancellor's attention. Profit-related pay (PRP) was a gimmick of Nigel Lawson's that was transformed almost immediately into a blatant tax-avoidance scam that bore no relation to popular capitalism or risk-sharing by workers. Ending PRP would save £1.5 billion a year.

Another arcane area where reform could yield huge and immediate savings is Britain's unique and bizarre "imputation" system for taxing company dividends. This system, which is now under legal challenge by foreign multinational companies and investment institutions, effectively provides an additional subsidy for pension funds and personal equity plans, as well as creating a perverse incentive for British companies to distribute their profits through dividends rather than retaining them for investment. In 1993, Norman Lamont raised £1 billion annually by reducing the imputation rate from 25 to 20 per cent. Even without

abolishing the imputation system completely, the Chancellor could raise a further £1 billion annually simply by cutting the imputation rate to 15 per cent. Of course this money would have to come from somewhere. Tampering with imputation might push down share prices and would certainly reduce the actuarial surpluses of pension funds, forcing people to save slightly more for their retirement. But that is all the more reason to act now, when share prices are in a bull market, pension funds are flush with cash and the booming economy makes it desirable to channel personal incomes into savings rather than consumption.

□ Higher indirect taxes would add another £1.5 billion a year to my revenue-raising package. The first obvious area is insurance, where an increase in the premium tax from 2.5 per cent to the 5 per cent minimum VAT level in Europe would raise about £700 million. The second is motoring and environmental taxation. Despite Norman Lamont's courageous decision to raise petrol taxes by 5 per cent annually in real terms, Britain still has some of the world's lowest petrol prices and encourages the use of diesel, probably the most detrimental to health. Considering Britain's high population density and the close correlation between traffic congestion and economic growth, a period of strong economic recovery would be the best possible

time to raise motoring taxation, as well as to increase the levies on landfills and industrial polluters. Such taxes could easily yield an additional £800 million.

□ The final area for the Chancellor's attention should be the North Sea. The Government's total revenues from oil and gas production have fallen to £1.5 billion from a 1984 peak of £12 billion. In 1981, when oil prices were high and it became apparent that the North Sea was more lightly taxed than comparable areas of production, Sir Geoffrey Howe introduced a supplementary petroleum duty to raise £2 billion a year. Today, with oil prices again approaching the levels of the mid-1980s, an increase of £1 billion in North Sea taxation would surely not be too much to demand.

Between them, the above measures would raise taxes by about £8 billion. Let us now suppose Mr Clarke wanted to earn some populist election-winning headlines. He could remit £3 billion of these extra revenues by cutting the standard rate of tax and widening the 20p band. Alternatively, he could please the business community by introducing a lower rate of capital gains tax for long-term investment, a measure that might cost £500 million or so - and still leave himself enough money to increase substantially the tax-free personal allowance or the threshold for national insurance, which would do more than any other measure to help the poor and help the unemployed back into jobs.

Such headline-grabbing tax cuts, along with a half-point cut in interest rates, would leave most voters no worse off than they were before the Budget. Meanwhile, the Treasury would enjoy a net tax increase of £5 billion. The economy would be protected from inflationary overheating. Industry would be saved from the overvalued pound. And the Tories might even deserve to win the election.

## Old habits die hard as French launch private pension debate

Employees may be reluctant to lose a state system, writes Adam Sage

AFTER five years of debate, hesitation and false starts, the French Government is to introduce private pension funds to a country that relies almost exclusively on its ailing social security system.

The proposal to create pension funds went before the French National Assembly yesterday, with the Socialists promising to oppose them and the Government determined that they should become law by January.

Despite fierce controversy over a project seen by unions as an attack on traditional state pensions, the Gaullist-led cabinet says that it is determined to push through a law that will pave the way for private pension schemes.

Not only will the proposals mark a radical change in the way the French plan for retirement, but they could also revolutionise the Paris stock market, which is smaller and weaker than its main counterparts abroad.

Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, said that the new schemes will target the country's 14 million private sector workers, who will obtain tax deductions against payments made into the funds. On retirement, they should be given the option of receiving either a pension or a lump sum, M Juppé said.

At present, only the self-employed and civil servants can obtain such tax deductions, and they often have little interest in doing so given the generosity of state-pensions for lower income groups. As a result, the private pensions industry is of marginal importance in France, catering for just over 500,000 people.

Administered by insurance companies and *mutuelles*, the French equivalent of friendly societies, the new funds will function on an altogether different scale, according to the project's supporters.

They say that the market in private pensions will be worth between £30 billion and £50 billion in the short term, and far more in the longer term. The pension industry hopes that over the next 15 years, it can attract up to a third of the £2,400 billion invested by the French in life insurance policies.

If so, the more ambitious claims made on behalf of the French stock market could prove well founded. At present worth £2,700 billion, and with about a third of its shares owned by non-French institutions, *La Bourse*, and in its wake, the French economy, would be transformed by the injection

of pension funds, enabling it to compete with rivals abroad, analysts say.

One idea floated by the French administration is for pension schemes to be legally bound to invest 60 per cent of their funds in French or European shares.

Didier Maillard, director of economic studies at Paribas Bank, said: "A country can only exist as an economic actor if it has important and organised shareholders." The pension funds will provide France with just that, as they have elsewhere, he hopes.

This, however, is by no means the only motive behind the Government's proposals. With the welfare deficit reaching £51.6 billion this year, France can no longer afford generous state pensions under which employees on average incomes can expect to receive 80 per of their salaries.

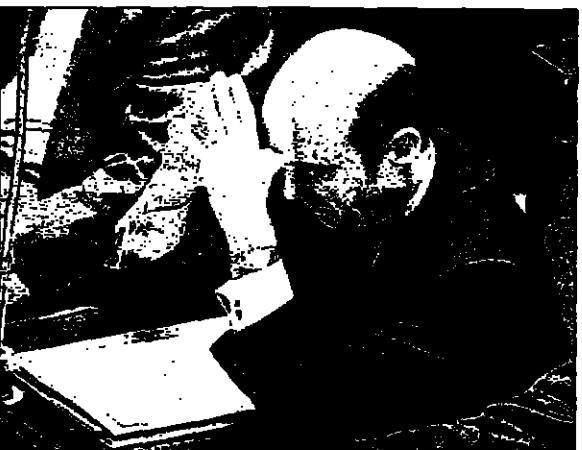
According to Arnaud d'Yvoire, general-secretary of the Pensions' Observatory, a Paris-based quango set up to oversee the pensions system, such high levels could only be maintained if workers paid about 12 per cent of their earnings into the state's scheme - an unacceptable amount.

"At the moment, the only people who take a significant part in earnings when they retire are the very high paid," he said. "But in the future, that situation is going to reach the middle classes and even the working classes. Without a miracle, the state pension is going to decline."

He is not, however, convinced that the new funds will be as successful as their supporters claim. Politically sensitive, proposals to boost the private pension industry have been floated several times by different governments since the start of the decade but shelved on every previous occasion.

Observers say that the Prime Minister could be forced to limit tax deductions and maintain an obligation to make payments into the state pension system in order to ensure his proposals are politically acceptable.

Emmanuel Reynaud, a pensions expert at the Institute of Social and Economic Studies, based in Paris, said: "I'm not sure that French pension funds will be very successful. Those promoting the project hope it will make the Paris stock market more active. But for this to happen, employees will need to sign up and that will take a very long time."



Alain Juppé is hoping to offer tax incentives

## Retroactive windfall tax no better than legalised robbery

From Mr Richard Thomas  
Sir, Surely there is an important principle at stake in the current discussion about a windfall tax to be levied on the utility companies: in a democracy, the government may not impose retroactive legislation. If one were to do so, it would cross the threshold into totalitarianism.

For many years I have been made uneasy by successive chancellors' Budget speeches in which they announce certain taxes which are to be increased with almost immediate effect. At that stage the Finance Bill has yet to be debated in Parliament let alone having received the Royal Assent and so become law. But Labour's proposed windfall tax would be quite

definitely retroactive in application and therefore nothing better than legalised robbery. An earlier Parliament refused to allow King Henry VII to annul his reign to the day before Bosworth so he could indict King Richard III's adherents with treason. Will our next Parliament recognise their same moral obligation to the nation?

Yours faithfully  
RICHARD THOMAS  
18 Kings Avenue  
Woodford Green, Essex.

### Jobs claim wrong

From Mr Roy Albionson  
Sir, It seems the assertions by the utilities (*The Times*, November 8) that this [windfall] tax would involve further job losses are unjustified.

## Better prepare for a life of leisure

From Mr Rainer Burchett  
Sir, Professor Morris in his article last Friday is reminiscent of old generals who are forever preparing for the next war by planning to perfect the use of the weapons introduced in the previous war.

It seems improbable that the very real problems identified by Professor Morris will be permanently solved by a rate of growth significantly

above the long-term trend rise in productivity. For one thing, setting out on a path of, say 5 per cent p.a. growth will create an investment boom which may well increase the trend rate of productivity growth. One can also question whether, given ultimate limits on raw materials and energy, an ever growing economy is even desirable.

What our economists and social theorists (and, God help us, our politicians) ought to be considering is what sort of economic and social models

are appropriate to a world in which a small minority of the population. The main problems seem to be firstly establishing, and gaining general acceptance for, the principles and mechanisms for distribution of both work and income, and, secondly, educating the population, not so much for work as for a life substantially or completely to be spent in leisure.

Yours faithfully,  
RAINER BURCHETT,  
29 Aldenham Avenue,  
Radlett, Hertfordshire.

## What's the point of a yo-yo pound?

From Mr Keith E. Hunter  
Sir, Roger Bootle (*The Times*, November 5) should know that one currency's revaluation is another's devaluation. During the whole of this year we have been advised that the mark and the franc were grossly overvalued. How then could any chancellor or European finance minister buck a market waiting for the right moment to achieve devaluation of the mark and the franc "by other means"? Those of us who have had to pay management charges to French property service companies in recent years have witnessed events in France that made the franc fort a nonsense.

We might wonder why British exporters need the status of the pound to be reduced to that of a rouble or a rupee, rather than rely on product quality, innovation and good after-sales service etc. Are we to be condemned for ever more to having a yo-yo currency? Yours faithfully,  
KEITH E. HUNTER,  
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Ilkley,  
West Yorkshire.

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**BY CLARE STEWART**

Nick Salmon, chief executive, said that the results marked a "a major turn-around from last year". Dr John Parker, chairman, said that the group's rehabilitation programme had been "tough-

There was a marked turnaround in Babcock's materials handling division, where last year's losses, of £1.87 million, were reversed, for a £985,000 profit. The result was largely

**Tempus, page 30**

**BARCLAYS** Global Investors is to capitalise on the growing demand for second-hand life policies with the launch of a new fund (Marianne Curphey writes). It will invest in traded with-profit endowment assurance policies, known in the

The fund, to be known as the BZW Endowment Fund II, aims to raise up to £25 million, and to diversify the risk between policies of differ-

ent life offices, policy terms, and maturity dates. Gitu Panjabi, business development manager of Barclays Global Investors, said a total of 13.5 million shares would be placed and the balance of 11.5 million shares will be offered

for subscription by the public. If the offer is oversubscribed, the shares will be distributed on a first come first served basis. The issue has been increased by five million shares to 25 million to meet expected demand.

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE  
IN SYDNEY

Profits from NAB's Australian operations were flat, at A\$1.28 billion, held back 100 by a rise in bad and doubtful debts. The bank also announced plans to spend about A\$180 million buying back about 13 million of its own shares. The bank has made no secret of its desire to expand through acquisition. It is widely expected to be a player after the relaxation of restrictions on mergers and takeovers that is envisaged next year.



Lee Portnoi, managing director, left, with Gity Paniabi and Dan Nathanson, director of Barclays Global Investors

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Nursing Home Properties reported pre-tax profits of £1.14 million in the year to the end of September against a profit of £140,000 on turnover of £3.51 million, up 326 per cent. Earnings per share were 4.44p, up 91 per cent. A final dividend of 1.25p makes the total dividend 3.7p compared with 0.8p. The 18-month-old company is listed on the AIM market and intends to seek a London Stock Exchange listing next year.

**TOPS ESTATES**, the town centre retail property specialist, is getting a £20 million cash injection from three institutions that are taking a half share in **Top's Leeds Shopping Plaza**. The plaza is being transferred to a vehicle in which **Orion-vink**, **Lothbury Property Trust** and **United Bank of Kuwait** will subscribe for half the shares. The deal will reduce **Top's** gearing from 170 per cent to 124 per cent. The £64 million plaza is undergoing a redesign. Its rental income is expected to increase from £4 million to £6.4 million over 18 months.

**HISCOX**, the insurance group, is seeking to buy out its subsidiary, **Hiscox Underwriting**, for about £32 million. **Hiscox Underwriting** sources business from the UK and mainland Europe which has not been traditionally offered to the Lloyd's market. During 1995, it introduced £75 million of gross written premium income to four **Hiscox Syndicates**. The deal is intended to raise the profile of **Hiscox Underwriting's** products, and end the requirement for payment of Lloyd's standard levies. The acquisition will be effective from January 1.

A SHARP decline in the sales of infectious disease testing equipment pushed Shield Diagnostics, the medical diagnostics company, into loss in the half year to the end of September. The Dundee company blamed the downturn on the decline in sales of its syphilis test and the German Government's retreat on its commitment to test all pregnant women for Chlamydia. Shield reported a pre-tax loss of £291,100 in the period, against a profit of £43,600 previously, on turnover that was flat at £2.73 million.

**NEW LONDON CAPITAL**, which provides underwriting capacity at Lloyd's of London, is investing £7.3 million in a new venture with Crowe Insurance Group to create a dedicated capital vehicle. New London will take an effective 55 per cent holding in Crowe Corporate Capital, which will have initial net assets of £9.3 million. Crowe Corporate will underwrite capacity for the 1997 year of £38 million across the six syndicates it manages. This will take 1997 underwriting capacity for the enlarged vehicle to £155 million.

**VOCALIS**, the speech technology company that reported its first interim yesterday, said sales in the half year to the end of September were slightly below expectations but orders in the second half are gaining momentum. The latest order comes from Folec Communications of Singapore, which will distribute Vocalis speech systems in the Asia-Pacific region. The company, floated on the London Stock Exchange at 95p a share in July, reported a £833,000 pre-tax loss (£564,000 loss) on turnover of £629,000, up 153 per cent

**CHARTERHOUSE** Communications, publisher of *What Mortgage* and *What Investment*, is floating on the Alternative Investment Market with an estimated market capitalisation of £5 million. Just over 40 per cent of share capital will be available at 5p per share, with directors and managers holding the remaining shares. Turnover for 1996 was £3.7 million, compared to £2.8 million the previous year; profits were £665,000, up from £336,000.

HLORIDE, the electronics group, is to spend the \$14.7 million it will gain from the closure of its pension fund on a summer acquisition. Keith Hodgkinson, chief executive, said that after having severed its links with its battery-making roots two months ago, the company had decided to use the money to buy a sizeable buy. Chloride returned pre-tax profits of £4.79 million (£3.54 million) for the half year to September 30. An interim dividend of 0.18p (0.133p) is due on January 31.

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# Rival schoolgirls run riot after fight over boyfriend

By KATHRYN KNIGHT  
AND LIN JENKINS

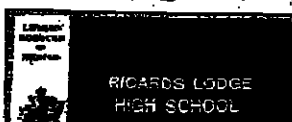
MORE than a hundred girls from rival schools ran riot in an affluent suburb, punching, biting and scratching each other after two girls had an argument over a boyfriend.

The teenagers from two schools in Wimbledon, south-west London, screamed and shouted as they launched into the mêlée outside the railway station after lessons on Thursday. About a hundred boys from local schools joined in to help their girlfriends in what one police officer called the biggest fight between schoolchildren that he had ever seen.

Extra police officers had to be drafted in to break up the brawl, which moved from Wimbledon station to the High Street. An elderly woman, who was hit with her walking stick and members of the public watched as girls aged 12 to 14 fell to the ground as they fought. A 13-year-old girl said the argument had started over a local, much-desired boy.

"One was going out with him and the other wanted him," she said. "The boy tried to stop the fight but ended up getting hit by the one of the girls. The two girls started having a go at each other and all their mates piled in. Kids were diving in to split it up but ended up getting into a fight themselves."

Girls from Ursuline High, a convent school say they have long been the target of taunts from pupils at Ricards Lodge.



Rivalry between the schools began in 1982



A comprehensive, Ursuline is two places higher than Ricards in the local league table and there has been a history of rivalry ever since a gang fight in 1982, also sparked by a disagreement over the affections of a boy.

Three years ago about 200 teenagers from the two schools rampaged, outside Wimbledon station. Police reinforcements had to be called in to quell the riot. This time, within minutes scores of pupils were taken to the sidelines. Police reinforcements arrived after the two schools' boys were arrested, but were later released.

Inspector Bob Ferris of Wimbledon police said: "There were between two and three hundred schoolchildren and it was extremely intimidating. They were extremely

disorderly and it seemed to be a prearranged fight although we have no proof of that. The children revel in their anonymity; they know that when the police arrive they do not know them."

One 15-year-old said the girls from Ricards liked to demonstrate how tough they were. "They are always pushing and shoving and shouting and swearing. They think they are so streetwise and we are just posh. We normally just ignore it."

A woman who sells flowers at the station said she had attended Pelham High School in Wimbledon, which has since closed. "Even in those days we used to fight the girls from Ricards. They have always had a reputation for fighting," she said.

A police source later disclosed that police could have arrested many more pupils but they wanted to avoid inflaming the situation.

Yesterday afternoon about half a dozen police officers stood sentry at the front of the station while others checked for signs of violence. Pupils from the two schools were met by teachers and police who ushered them quickly on to their trains.

Head teachers from four schools, including Ursuline and Ricards Lodge, were also invited to a meeting with the Chief Inspector of Wimbledon Police yesterday to talk through the problems and see if the police could help. Merton council said the incident was being investigated.



Benjamin Chambers, left, who "loved the farm", with his twin Christopher

## Mother tried in vain to pluck boy from grain pit

A MOTHER described yesterday how she tried to pull one of her eight-year-old twin sons free as he sank to his death in a pit of corn. Kim Chambers wept as she told an inquest that Benjamin vanished into the grain as though it were quicksand, with his brother Christopher looking on.

Mrs Chambers, 30, said that the identical twins, her daughter Samantha, 10, and stepdaughter Clare, 16, had been repeatedly warned to keep away from machinery and the grain storage area at the family's farm at Bagworth, Leicestershire. On the day of the accident in September, her husband Ivor, 39, had been harvesting while the twins were playing. "I assumed they had gone into the garden or into the fields to play with the ducks and chickens," she said. "I usually give them ten minutes. I was on my way to go to see them when Christopher met me at the door saying Benjamin was trapped in the corn. I ran to the storage area



Mrs Chambers yesterday, dug down with her hands

and I could see Ben on top of the corn. He was about up to his thighs and was sinking. I climbed on to the corn and just grabbed hold of him and tried to pull him out, but I couldn't.

"The pressure of the corn moving down was defeating me. He just went down, underneath. Christopher stood at the side and I can

remember screaming at him to switch off the corn drier, which was sucking the corn down. But of course he didn't know how to switch it off."

Mrs Chambers eventually switched off the machine. "I ran back to the corn and pushed my arm down, but he had gone too far down for me to find him. I just couldn't find him." She dug her way into the corn with her hands until the fire brigade arrived, alerted by her daughter. They recovered Benjamin 20 minutes later but he was dead on arrival at hospital. A post-mortem examination showed that he was suffocated by the grain.

Brian Slater, a health and safety inspector, said the drying grain had formed a vortex effect so strong that even a grown man would have been unable to escape. Good standards had been kept by the Chambers and safety arrangements for the children were excellent. The inquest jury at Coalville, Leicestershire, returned a verdict of accidental death.

## Move to keep bogus claimants out of court

Benefit fraudsters will be able to avoid prosecution by paying a 30 per cent penalty as well as returning illegally-claimed payments, Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, said, announcing the Social Security Administration Fraud Bill.

As part of measures to cut benefit fraud, anti-fraud officers are to have greater powers and tax records are to be used to check for false claims. Many of the 25,000 fraudsters expected to be caught are likely to be offered the chance to return illegal claims, together with the fine. This option, intended to reduce court costs, will not be offered to those who have also offended in the past or who have been involved in multiple fraud.

## Yard to question Jackal

A Scotland Yard team has flown to Paris to interview Ilich Ramirez Sanchez - nicknamed Carlos the Jackal - over a number of London incidents including the shooting of the Marks & Spencer president Edward Sleaf. Sanchez, arrested in the Sudan two years ago, is awaiting trial for a series of incidents including the bombing of French trains.

## Labour man charged with fraud

A former election agent of Peter Mandelson, the Labour MP for Hartlepool, has been charged with fraud. Bernard Carr, 42, former chair of the housing committee in Hartlepool and of the town's Labour Party, will face six counts of deception and one of attempted deception at the town's magistrates' court on December 20.

## Death crash coach driver cleared

A driver whose coach crashed in the M5, killing a Royal Marine bandsman, was cleared of careless driving on the judge's instructions at Bristol Crown Court. Judge David Smith said there was a conflict of evidence as to whether the coach's brakes failed when William Mancey, 54, from Plymouth, was confronted by a jackknifed car and caravan.

## Rape victim attacked on busy road

Drivers stuck in a traffic jam on Wandsworth Road, south London, ignored a 13-year-old boy struggling with an attacker who abducted and raped him, police said. The man involved in Thursday evening's attack was thought to be a vagrant. Detective Inspector Geoff Whitehouse said: "I would have expected someone to stop and help a struggling boy."

## Passenger planes came too close

Investigators were trying to work out how a British Airways Boeing 767 with 180 passengers came close to an Air UK Fokker 100 aircraft with 77 passengers at 20,000 ft over south-west Scotland on Thursday evening. Air UK said: "There was no risk as constant visual contact was kept between them and they were at least one mile apart at all times."

## Husband jailed for car shunt

Alan Foster, 43, was jailed for six months for ramming his wife's car off the road into a ditch. The incident had started with a row at their joint business at Whitby, North Yorkshire. Yvonne Foster, 53, drove off and her husband followed in his four-wheel drive car and rammed her car off the road. Teeside Crown Court rejected her plea for mercy for her husband.

## Drink case judgment reserved

The High Court reserved judgment on a damages claim by Peter Baker, a television sales executive, against a company physician. The medical assessment of Mr Baker's drinking habits by Dr Georges Kaye led to his being turned down for a new job with NBC Europe. Deputy judge Robert Owen, QC, did not indicate when he would give judgment.

## Gay-service bishop condemns Church's 'obsession with sex'

THE Church of England bishop who will preach at today's gay service at Southwark cathedral yesterday condemned the "obsession with sex" that was threatening to turn the issue into the most divisive since the ordination of women priests.

In his sermon, the Right Rev John Gladwin, Bishop of Guildford, will appeal for unity. He is expected to outline

practical ways in which Christians of all sexual persuasions within the church can co-exist peacefully.

The service, condemned by one opponent as "celebrating 25 years of gay sex" on a recent BBC radio broadcast, was the 25th anniversary of the service, organised to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement.

attempt to negate spiritually the effects of a service they believe is celebrating "evil acts".

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, has received dozens of protest letters and last week distanced himself from the service, organised to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement.

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**By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT**

One of the two amphibious assault ships, *HMS Intrepid* and *HMS Fearless*, will also be deployed to Hong Kong to evacuate The Black Watch, the

After her visit to Hong Kong, *Britannia* will sail back to Portsmouth, arriving in August. She is expected to carry out routine royal duties in the latter part of the year. The yacht's future after decommissioning remains uncertain. Ministers have yet to make a decision.



One of *Britannia's* propellers being hosed down in dry dock in Portsmouth

**By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT**

"Any patients who are in a routine category on the waiting list and were put there after the 23rd April 1996 will now be put on a suspended waiting list until the 31st March 1997," says the memorandum, which is dated Octo-

The hospital serves a population of 500,000. Nearly half have fundholding GPs, who handle their own budgets and can buy operations from the NHS or private hospitals. The rest of the population have services bought for them by the health authority, which paid in bulk for 12,000 pa-

Hospitals are under orders from the Health Department to improve efficiency by performing 3 per cent more work for the same money each year. Commenting on the Norfolk situation, the department said: "They are not urgent cases and will receive treatment within 12 months."



**BY STEPHEN FARRELL**

The decision comes as the latest 12in model, the lawman Crimebuster, is expected to feature prominently in the £1.59 billion Christmas toy market. The manufacturer Hasbro pointed out that the Co-op had less than 1 per cent of the market. A spokeswoman added: "The toy is no longer a military figure. The modern Action Man is a cross

He said: "In the light of Dunblane we have made a decision to stop selling toys which may be perceived to represent, or incite, violence. It is not political correctness. The society has always had a conscience."

<sup>1</sup>Source: Embrionics, DFO, "Seal Report", Licenses and Seals harvested to date, Canada, May 31, 1994.



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## FUNDING

Lord Gowrie leads the Arts Council into the brave new world of 'arts for everyone'

## THEATRE 1

In London's oldest cinema, Emily Lloyd joins the cast for *Max Klapper*, a 'play with film'

## THE TIMES ARTS

## THEATRE 2

... while the Nottingham Playhouse presents the belated British premiere of Lepage's *Elsinore*

## THEATRE 3

... and the National offers *Fair Ladies*, a quirky insight into 18th-century Japanese drama

Richard Morrison on the Arts Council's bold decision to promote 'grassroots' projects with lottery funds

# Culture for all? Yes, it's official

If you always wanted to transform the kids hanging round your street corner into a wicked clog-dancing outfit, you will never get a better chance. If your neighbourhood needs freshening up with a few walls of legit graffiti, start spreading the paint.

If your embryonic Oasis lacks only a pair of mind-blowing loudspeakers, this is the moment to press your claim to fame. The Arts Council — hitherto a fairly staunch supporter of the "it don't mean a thing if it ain't professional" theory of subsidy — has suddenly gone stark, staring popular.

Yesterday Lord Gowrie's bureaucrats unveiled Arts for Everyone — a project which, in their new funky mood, they insist on abbreviating to "A4E". In the next year alone an estimated £20 million of lottery money will go to the scheme. The Arts Council is sending out 50,000 application forms and hoping that 10,000 groups will apply.

If that happens, it will signal a massive expansion, a Big Bang, in state patronage of the arts. It may not quite mean arts for everyone. But it will certainly be hard to walk down any high street without bumping into somebody who has benefited from an Arts Council lottery grant. To borrow a phrase, it could be you.

So how does "A4E" work? Well, there are two strands. Local groups applying for smaller grants — from £50 and £5,000 — will head for a nine-month pilot scheme called A4E Express. This is radical stuff: in Arts Council scrutiny of your artistic quality or accounts (you don't even need to be a properly constituted company); no long waiting period; minimum red tape. "We could be accused of subsidising low-quality art," admits Caroline Leach of the Arts Council. "But here we see that the process of producing art is almost as important as the product."

Applicants simply need to be backed by two independent referees. And, of course, to have a bright idea for using the grant. That idea has to meet at least one of Arts for Everyone's five guiding criteria: encouraging participation; getting young people involved; building new audiences; supporting new



work and developing skills. It is hard to think of a single leisure pursuit that wouldn't qualify — but that is the point. The A4E Express pilot scheme (which will have two deadlines: January 31 and April 30) is designed to spread the lottery largesse as widely and — in the most positive sense — as indiscriminately as possible. Even the requirement for applicants to provide some "partnership funding" is suggested by Sir Cameron Mackintosh's decision to donate £100,000 a year for five years specifically for this purpose.

Meanwhile the bigger scheme will give grants of up to £500,000 to more established groups. They will have to satisfy at least three of the criteria listed above. The emphasis is firmly on developing new audiences or new work.

Taken together, the Arts for Everyone projects represent a revolution in arts policy. First, lottery money is at last being openly used to fund people rather than buildings. Not before time, many would say. Admittedly, £20 million is more pocket-money compared with the £350 million committed to the Greenwich Millennium Exhibition, or the £78 million going to the Royal Opera House development. But taken together with the "stabilisation fund" announced in the summer and the new scheme to provide grants for performing-arts students, Arts for Everyone does

suggest a new flexibility in official thinking about how lottery money is spent. Secondly, the A4E Express scheme, by its very nature, will be largely unpoliced. That is risky. Some of those grants will undoubtedly produce low-quality art, or even no-quality art. But the risk is worth taking. For too long the Arts Council has been perceived as a cosy support-agency for a comparatively narrow band of favoured professionals. If this scheme realises the potential of groups that do not fit into sophisticated metropolitan notions of "good taste" or "quality", so much the better.

There's never been anything quite like Arts for Everyone," trumpeted the Arts Council yesterday. "It's intended to refresh the arts other funding schemes cannot reach..." For once, that boast seems justified. But it does beg a question: if Arts for Everyone is such a great idea, why has it taken the Arts Council 50 years to think of it? More specifically, why has this brilliant use of lottery money only been introduced now, two years after the lottery was set up? Cynics will claim that Arts for Everyone has been instigated only after millions of pounds have already been lavished on Arts for Very Few People. They will also point to Labour's threats to overhaul lottery grants to the arts if they don't meet "the people's priorities".

Setting up a grassroots scheme like A4E Express could defuse complaints about too much lottery money going to a charmed circle of London culture palaces. But however questionable the motivation or tardy the initiative, Arts for Everyone should be welcomed. If 5,000 groups who have never been publicly funded suddenly receive the money to do something imaginative, a huge store of latent creative talent could be unlocked. And, with a bit of luck, the old charge of "elitism" that has dogged the Arts Council for half a century could finally be rebutted.

## ... but should the Arts Council be wound down?

Lord Chadlington, the new chairman of the Royal Opera House, proposed far-reaching changes to the arts-funding system in a speech last night. Giving the annual lecture at the Royal Fine Art Commission, Lord Chadlington (formerly Peter Gummer) suggested that the seven largest performing arts organisations should be subsidised not by Arts Council grant, but directly by the Government.

He called the Big Seven (the South Bank, ENO, National Theatre, RSC, Royal Opera, Royal Ballet and Birmingham Royal Ballet) "national assets to be nurtured and protected." Under his proposals the Arts Council of England would then devote itself to "developing grassroots enterprises", and be moved out of London to "Middle England or a development area". It would keep no more than a dozen officers in a London office for "lobbying Government".

At the same time the ten regional arts boards would be given powers to distribute lottery funds directly in their areas. "London decision-making — or even head office decision-making — is a concept banks and businesses left behind years ago," Lord Chadlington said.

He also proposed that lottery funds be used to provide: ● all 16-year-old schoolchildren with a "swipe card" — the Lottery Arts Card — that would allow them to make five free visits to theatres, concert halls, opera houses, galleries or museums; ● a national "bank" of musical instruments to be freely available on loan to children learning instruments in schools; ● a dedicated national arts television channel which would transmit performances from the national companies as well as documentaries, educational programmes and archive material. This would "transform the way people see the lottery's contribution to society".

Lord Chadlington also called for the establishment of a "National Endowment for Science and Technology in the Arts", which would encourage — by tax incentives or matching grants — successful artists to vest some of their copyrights in a central fund. The royalties would then be used to support young artists. "The stars and best-sellers of today could help bring forward the stars and best-sellers of tomorrow," he said.

THEATRE: David Farr pays tribute to cinema through his 'play with film'; plus an unlikely Japanese hit, and Lepage's multimedia extravaganza

## Celebration without fizz

REPUTEDLY Britain's first purpose-built cinema, the Electric housed live performances from its beginning, though back in 1910 this was only the squint-eyed pianist adjusting the speed of his fingers to the hurrying chariot off the first *Quo Vadis?* For live actors you would have had to go down to the theatres of Shepherd's Bush, or nowadays up the Portobello Road to the Gate at Notting Hill.

It is the Gate that is currently breathing a sort of life into the Electric, to celebrate the first hundred years of moving pictures with a show that combines play and film. But the evening from a film parading to be a 1948 Hollywood epic, directed by Ben Hopkins, add little to the unfolding drama, and while the sequence of screen tests is amusing, the famous director's memory of a 1914 silent, though neatly pastiched (Hopkins again), identifies the heart of his mystery in a manner obscure enough to make *Citizen Kane* seem a banal narrative exercise.

David Farr's "play with film" imagines an edited German director of the Fritz Lang type, even down to the black top-hat. Max Klapper is holding for the actress of his dreams, physically like the silent star who played opposite him when he himself was an actor. Back in 1914 he lost the girl to the other man, and seemingly struck out one of

Max Klapper — A Life in Pictures Electric Cinema, W1

his eyes in despair, now he will create his revenge. His secret gradually emerges through a fairly familiar tale of dictatorial genius battling with philistine producer (nice performance by Jim Dandy). Anthony Higgins makes Klapper look and sound an entirely credible figure, obsessed, uncompromising. But though many a film director has played God, I never believed in the power of Klapper's obsession.

Farr's production contains many incidental pleasures.



A Forties star is born: Emily Lloyd and Anthony Higgins

though Emily Lloyd, in her first stage role, is hard to hear when her voice drops. Tracy Letts, better known over here as the author of the murderous *Killer Joe*, plays her co-star, more persuasive in the 1914 pastiche than in the 1940s Oscar-winner. Samantha Holland is splendid as the crystal-voiced PA with her own secret.

In fairness to Farr's enterprise there is one moment that could only be shown effectively by using film, when Klapper walks over to the screen, like Noel Coward in *The Italian Job*, and finds what he wants in an unintended detail. But as a whole, the show is never the celebration of cinema I had hoped for.

JEREMY KINGSTON

FOR A time, I expected an awful ersatz evening in *Mikado* Japan. The programme told me that *Fair Ladies* was Peter Oswald's attempt to recreate in "unrhyming pentameters" a puppet play by the 18th-century dramatist Chikamasa. The well of the Cottesloe (in its narrow, open-plan mode for the occasion) began to fill with British actors wearing platts, gowns, Samurai swords and scowls. The first speaking characters were the Moon, a lady in a white gown, and the Timon, a small boy insouciantly carrying a birdcage. "Blood Wedding meets Beatrix Potter," muttered the friend behind me.

We were mostly wrong. This is one of the National's more improbable raids on the world's dramatic archives, but also one of its more rewarding. Though Oswald's unrhyming pentameters can veer disconcertingly from the lapidary to the feathery, he has a strong story to tell and a fascinatingly odd world to evoke. Think of Victorian England, Golden-Age Spain, Neo-Classical France — but no, each seems like laid-back California beside the fiercely honourable and hierarchical Japan that the authors are describing.

This is a world in which Samurai ferociously quarrel about whether they belong to grade four or five, are happy to commit suicide for such

## Nasty oriental business

faults as letting a bird out of a cage, rejoice when their master is kind enough personally to behead them, and, of course, regard the very thought of disobedience with moral horror. And the same rigidity extends from the human to the divine. Fail to disembowel yourself on cue, and you may be reincarnated not even as a spider, but as a

Part of the point seems to be that such a world is peculiarly vulnerable to an echo, and it gets a splendidly nasty, devious one in the form of

David Haig's Morotaka, warden of the Empress's maids of honour. He is keen to behead any erring Samurai, especially the one found in the woods with a girl who has caught his lubricious eye. Before long he is telling both the Empress (Olwen Fouere) and her lord high brother (Colin McFarlane) that the other has ordered the execution of followers they regard as friends, and children. The consequences go on a bit long, but they involve plots, tricks, separations, wanderings, reconciliations and the other trappings of romantic folk-tales. Eastern or Western.

The characters variously come out with pastiche proverbs ("a daisy on the ground is right to mock the poppy in the

magpie's beak"), airy rhetoric ("life is a dream but in the long flower reality begins") and contemporary plod ("we

have given rein to fragmentation"). But all is happily resolved in the spirit of an Empress who tempers justice

with affection and, surprisingly, even a little flexibility. If I came to shrug, I left John Crowley's resourceful production to applaud.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

*Fair Ladies at a Game of Poem Cards Cottesloe*

## Shakespeare in a spin

on a second viewing, the technology was less blinding and it was possible to concentrate on the thought behind it. Although Lepage has had great fun with this piece, he is never trivial, and the work operates on several levels.

And you cannot deny that it is a technical feat. Quite apart from the screens, revolves and hydraulics, it takes some discipline for one man to play six or more male and two female characters, while also evoking the full cast. The more so when that solitary actor is a French-Canadian. After much coaching Lepage has made

*Elsinore Nottingham Playhouse*

great strides, but there is no mistaking how alien these rhythms are to a French speaker, and neither diction nor voice projection is Lepage's first skill. To compensate, and to create voice, Lepage uses a microphone, which sometimes makes it even harder to hear him.

*Elsinore* is, unexpectedly, one of Lepage's most lighthearted pieces, a sort of Shakespearean *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, where much of the enjoyment comes from seeing how he transforms himself. He does use false beards, crowns and dresses, but the real personality changes come

through his movements — the cross of a leg denotes quite clearly the difference between Gertrude and Claudius. Lepage is wonderfully still and composed in these switches. At the same time, all the characters are imbued with the same languid serenity, sinister in Claudius, endearing in Ophelia and melancholy in Hamlet, but ultimately suggesting that all of them are projections in Hamlet's own head. We are seeing the play through his eyes.

If *Elsinore* loses in emotion what it gains in theatrical ingenuity, Lepage acknowledges and intellectually justifies that fact. His thesis is that at the heart of Hamlet's moral crisis is a lack of passion. At every moment instinctual action caves in to analysis and intellectualising. So it is with *Elsinore*.

CLARE BAYLEY

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

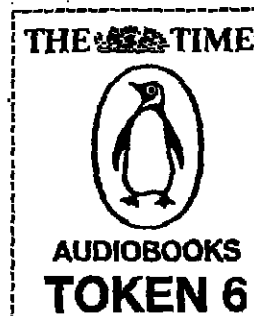
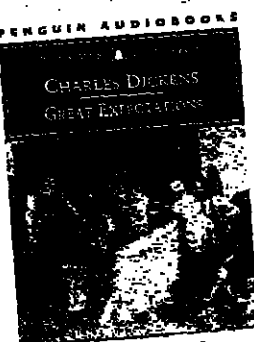
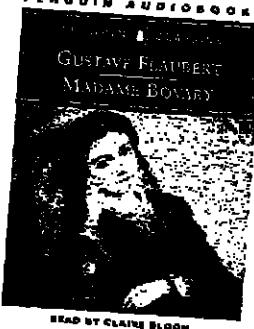
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CHANGING TIME





## ■ POP 1

Def Leppard proved to the Dublin crowd only that their best years are behind them



## ■ POP 2

...and the support band, Terrorvision, never turned up — but they did send their T-shirts

## THE ARTS



## ■ POP 3

Michelle Shocked celebrates her 'anti-slavery' victory over her former record company



## ■ POP 4

For that authentic 'morning after' lyricism, give me the Alooof every time, says Caitlin Moran

## Dog-eared cats

"DON'T forget us, and we won't forget you," Joe Elliott told the audience at the Point towards the end of Def Leppard's first Dublin show in four years. Sadly, the words seemed more like a desperate plea than a vow of solidarity, and contained the painful truth about the veteran soft-metal gurus: their best years are behind them.

But at least they turned up. The atrocious weather prevented the scheduled support band, Terrorvision, from making it — but, bizarrely, their T-shirts were still on sale in the foyer.

Def Leppard's professed desire to be taken as seriously as the likes of R.E.M. and U2 cannot be countenanced until they earn rather than simply demand credibility. Appearing in standard rock'n'roll garb — black leather trousers, a white vest and, er, a cardigan — Elliott exhumed one staid stadium rock cliché after another without ever looking to breathe new life into them.

"We're here to rock your asses off," he announced at one point, completely devoid of irony, and

before long he was off punching the air again while yet another choreographed guitar solo took shape in front of the Marshall amps.

Even if we accept the limitations of this traditionalist approach — as the band itself do, all too readily — there's still no getting away from the fact that their audience increasingly does not. A sparse attendance

inevitably resulted in a devastating lack of atmosphere, and it was always going to be an uphill struggle to whip up the necessary frenzy. An acoustic interlude of more than one song would have been advisable.

That said, the crowd was appreciative of the group's efforts. Newer material from the recent *Slang* album was given an airing, but inevitably it was the bankable hits such as *Animal*, *Photograph* and *Armageddon* that were most rousing. After a gutsy *Pour Some Sugar On Me*, the calls for an encore were heartfelt. But, to be brutally honest, this was an all-too-forgettable show.

Def Leppard  
Dublin

NICK KELLY

## Marginal response

ONE of Britain's most cultured singer-songwriters returns to London and the Jazz Café is markedly under-attended for the occasion. One hardly knows whether to smile at the opportunity to catch up with Clive Gregson or to cry at such a lukewarm response.

In fine form whatever the turnout, Gregson himself has gone for the former option. A veteran of the post-punk music scene of the late Seventies with his rock group Any Trouble, he spent the Eighties reshaping himself into a respected, folk-inclining acoustic performer.

He now resides in Nashville, and it is tempting to say that it was this country's marginalisation of such artists that drove him away. His return for a 19-date solo tour marks the release of his latest album *Demon*, *I Love This Town*, another cluster of poignant commentaries on love and loss. The album was the framework for

a warming evening, with upbeat pieces of rock'n'roll whimsy such as *Geography* and *Secondhand Car* conveyed just as well on acoustic guitar as the delicate and lovelorn *Things I Didn't Do* and *Ramshackle Road*. Gregson's unforced, self-effacing humour was

working well too, as he introduced the new album's *Love Casts A Long Shadow* as "a song I wrote for The Beatles... six months ago". A cover of Take That's *Back For Good* was an unexpected pleasure, as was *Fred Astaire*, one of a number of new Gregson songs.

And for those of us who fought in the power-pop wars in the Eighties, it was a delight to hear him disinter Any Trouble's *All The Time in the World*, and, as encores, *Touch and Go* and their old rallying call, *Open Fire*. He may work in the margins, but Gregson's contribution continues to fill the page.

Clive Gregson  
Jazz Cafe, NW1

PAUL SEXTON

Where has Michelle Shocked been lately? Playing star wars, she tells Nigel Williamson

## Look who's back in charge



Michelle Shocked: back in Britain and back in full control of her music

Clashes between the corporate and the creative have long been a part of the music industry. Few such struggles, however, have been more bitter than the one involving Michelle Shocked. For almost four years, Mercury, the company to which the American singer was contracted, refused even to speak to her. Then she issued a law suit citing the 13th amendment to the American Constitution, the one which abolished "slavery and involuntary servitude". Shocked has just won both the case and complete control over her career and artistic direction.

"People might say I'm difficult, but did you ever hear anyone describe a label as difficult?" she says. "By nature, artists should challenge. When they call you difficult it is a reflection of the imbalance of power."

"The corporate culture is based on intimidation. They had very narrow expectations of what I should do. It never occurred to me that business people and lawyers could try to define art."

After releasing three successful albums of witty, intelligent songs between 1988 and 1992, songs that drew deeply on the folk traditions of American music, Shocked decided she wanted to do something different. "Actually I planned to have a nervous breakdown and from the ashes of that find my true voice," she says. Then I proposed a funky rhythm and blues album."

The record company president asked for an acoustic album. Shocked refused: her existing contract purportedly gave her control over artistic content. Compromises were made. Shocked submitted a modified proposal and was all ready to record a new album in late 1992 — when

she was told that the studio would not allow her in. The record company was still not happy and would not pay for the studio time. She was effectively being prevented from recording, but at the same time the company would not allow her to sign for anyone else.

She spent the next three years touring — "keeping in touch with my audience" — and then her lawyers hit upon the idea of using the anti-slavery amendment. Shocked employed Leigh Steinberg, one of the biggest names in

means that the songs become a celebration of the human spirit, showing the extraordinary qualities of ordinary people when put under almost intolerable pressure. "There's a very frail human being telling these stories and there are melodramatic metaphors to talk about my own frustration," she says.

Shocked, a name she adopted when she ran away from her Mormon parents at 15, refuses to exult over her legal success. "I could call this the victory tour and pose as the David who conquered Goliath. But that is not what the heart and the soul are about. Now I'm free I just want to move on."

She thinks, however, that her case means "a sea change" in which artists everywhere are going to demand greater control over their intellectual property. Shocked is not only magnanimous in victory, but artistic freedom has made her more relaxed about other areas of her life. She still burns with integrity, but can now talk about her strange upbringing more openly than for years. She admits that she still has not come to terms with being raised by "a wild bunch of Mormons", but is at an age where she is thinking about having children herself. "That means for the first time I can understand the viewpoint of the 15-year-old girl I was and that of my mother who was 34 when I left. Having kids means you have a little bit of spiritual real estate, you've invested in the destiny of the planet."

At this rate she might even have to change her name again — although Michelle-Mellowed doesn't have quite the same ring.

Kind Hearted Woman is released by BMG. Michelle Shocked plays Shipheads Bar, Empire on Monday

"I could call this the victory tour"

American law who had helped to bring about the free agency of sports stars. The case potentially had huge repercussions and other labels started telling Mercury that it could not be allowed to reach court. In the settlement Shocked was freed and has signed to a more sympathetic label.

The result is a staggeringly fine new album, *Kind Hearted Woman*, full of desperately moving songs about hard-luck characters from the American backwoods. Several reviewers have described it as bleak, but they have missed the point. True, the stories are often harrowing — about a stillborn child, a hit-and-run killing, a boy who watches his father struck by lightning. But, in the best Steinbeck tradition of American story-telling, Shocked's empathy for these characters

## Tail-end to a mad night

feel sad or sick, but afterwards you feel very alive." Dean enthuses. "And minor-chord records are intensely personal." Ricky puts in, "You can't really share a hugely sad record with anyone else. It has to be just you, your headphones and the 'Repeat' button."

The Alooof's new single, *One Night Stand*, demands that you listen to it alone, strapped into headphones and hunched over the "Repeat" button all night. It brings to mind the



CAITLIN MORAN

scene in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* when Richard Dreyfuss is sucked up, through a tunnel of white light, into the glittering gold interior of the mothership. It's very big, and verging on the edge of collapse. The 32-piece orchestra adds that *Day in the Life* vibe of chaotic, speeding horror, and the lyrics see Ricky wailing that he "feels nothing at all/I feel no shame... and, er, what was her name?"

Ricky walked out on his wife and two children for a while last year, and *One Night Stand* sums up the dizzy sickness and fear a stranger's bed arouses. Radio 1 is playing it like mad at the moment, and whatever's played either side of it sounds tinny and cheap and entirely crushable.

"The one thing we all agree on is that we can't sound like anyone else," Dean says, which is a prime band cliché, but also true in the Alooof's case. "We'll play a track over and over again, and really live with it, and if it reminds us of anyone else we'll scrap it."

The Alooof are moving into a league that contains the Alooof and no one else. The next album promises to be astonishing. In the meantime, there's the magnificence of *One Night Stand* and *Sinking* to keep us going.

One Night Stand is released on East West Records on Monday. Sinking is still available

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Exhausted, bittersweet regret is one of the most evocative moods that music can follow: informed by the previous high, but sumptuously dark and rich from the subsequent low. The Alooof are masters of this wasted grandeur. Their second album, *Sinking*, makes *Screamadelia* by Primal Scream sound as if it was recorded in mono by monks. It's the music of people who make a night out last a week, and spend the following week in recovery. Their reputation precedes them like a "Parental Warning" sticker on a CD: tour buses end in ditches, quiet Swedish chalets are turned into booming, strobe-lit dens of iniquity, and last night a dog got dragged into the fun.

Dean explains: "The dog had one end of the bone, and I had the other end in my mouth. I was just playing with him. He looked so friendly and cuddly."

"It was an albatross," Ricky adds, "but it seemed to like him." The Alooof's references are as wide and ranging as their music: sitting in no particular genre, they mash dub, blues, dance hall, techno and drama into a queasily marish brew that's imbued with Cinemascope regret. Their last year was spent in "research".

They listened to the last Spiritualized LP a lot, Jagz says, sipping on his orange juice. "Colourbox, Chi-Lites, The Specials. The soundtrack to *Last of the Mohicans*. Loads of dub. Touring with Spiritualized gets you into that circular, mantra-ish way of thinking — building up layers until things get double-strong. Our last LP was more disjointed — there was a big break between recording each half, and we changed our sound a lot in the interim."

"Also, the lyrics were politically based on the last album," Ricky says. "A lot of the dance music around at that time was 'We're so happy, we're all dancing', and we reacted against that."

"But this album is much more personal," Dean says. "And the tracks flow into each other really well. The sound is more cohesive."

"It's like a soundtrack to the tail-end of the maddest night ever," Ricky puts in. "And there's a lot of minor chords."

"Minor chords are fantastic — they allow you to indulge in that macabre feeling. It's like stopping by car-crashes. You







## ■ POP 5

Against the odds, Prince's triple-CD epic, *Emancipation*, proves sharp, inventive and vital



## ■ POP 6

Chris Rea quaintly serenades the motor-racing world in tandem with Shirley Bassey on *La Passione*

## THE ARTS



## ■ POP 7

Ghastly gangsta rap is purveyed shamelessly and menacingly by Snoop Doggy Dogg on *Tha Doggfather*



## ■ POP 8

Mike Henderson evokes the era of hard-hittin', hard-livin' blues on his rollicking *First Blood*



He sings, he plays, he wears a joke beard made out of caviar — is there no end to Prince's talents?

# With one mighty LP, the Slave was free

POP ALBUMS: David Sinclair salutes the artist recently known as duff on his three-hour-long return to superstar form

**PRINCE**  
*Emancipation*  
(NPG/EMI 7243 8 549820; three-CDs £19.99)  
HE MAY be the most prolific superstar in the history of pop, but as Prince enters a new phase of his career with his first record for EMI, his stock is at a low ebb. His previous album, *Chaos and Disorder*, a desultory kiss-off to his former record company, has sold fewer than 40,000 copies in Britain, a dismal result for an artist of his stature.

As public interest has waned, so the media has tired of pandering to the little man's identity crises and crass promotional ploys. Not the best moment then, you would think, to chance his arm with a grandiose triple CD, ominously titled *Emancipation* and promising "three hours of love, sex and liberty". Frankly, it looks as if he's been given enough rope to hang himself with slack to spare.

But, against the odds, slack is one thing this album is not. Gone for the most part is the empty braggadocio and slapdash production that have marred his output in recent years. Instead, along with the complex horn parts, barbershop soul harmonies and multiple layers of percussive activity, there is a return to the inventive vitality that used to be taken for granted.

There are sultry, pleading ballads, such as *Soul Sanctuary* and *Saviour*; uptempo dance tracks, notably a sensational electro-funk groove called *New World*, affectionate cover versions of hits by the Stylistics (*By Your Side*), the Delonics (*La, La, La Means I Love U*) and Joan Osborne (*One of Us*); and a handful of badass rap tracks, the heaviest being *Face Down*.

While musically there is little he

has not tackled before, there are some stunning moments, as on *Slave*, where he harnesses a murky, racing, Rea's guitar is left at home and his lugubrious drawl becomes a lugubrious croon, assisted by the more forceful tones of Shirley Bassey on *Shirley do you own a Ferrari?* and *Disco La Passione*.

An album that conjures up images of grainy black-and-white movies on Sunday afternoon TV, the idea works thanks to Rea's obvious and unswerving devotion to his theme, and the refreshing lack of ironic pretensions so frequently associated with latterday excursions into this kind of music.

Although it is a lot to swallow, *Emancipation* is anything but the self-indulgent mess we might have expected. Never mind the quantity, enjoy the depth.

**CHRIS REA**  
*La Passione*  
(East West 0630-1695 £13.99)  
A COMPLETE departure from which Chris Rea is known, *La Passione* is a quaintly orchestrated film score,

which tells the semi-autobiographical tale of a young boy enchanted by the glamorous world of motor racing. Rea's guitar is left at home and his lugubrious drawl becomes a lugubrious croon, assisted by the more forceful tones of Shirley Bassey on *Shirley do you own a Ferrari?* and *Disco La Passione*.

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**SNOOP DOGGY DOGG**  
*Tha Doggfather*  
(Death Row/Interscope INTD-90038 £13.49)  
DEDICATED "in loving memory" of rap star Tupac Shakur, shot dead in September, *Tha Doggfather* is another loathsome celebration of the black American thug lifestyle set to a cool, shuffling hip hop beat. Dogg delivers his

casual exhortations to violence in a thin, weaselly voice that only seems to underpin the menace in his heart. The chilling effect is compounded by audio verité snippets of news reportage of his own murder trial, and the obligatory gunshot sounds, something of a gangsta rap cliché these days.

It would be reassuring to think that this was all an immature, macho fantasy, but events suggest otherwise. If there is no longer any dividing line between art and reality, isn't it about time people like Dogg, with all his influence, tried to change both for the better?

**MIKE HENDERSON**  
*First Blood*  
(Dead Reckoning/BMG £13.49)  
ALTHOUGH based in Nashville, where he has a day job playing studio sessions with the likes of Emmylou Harris, John Hiatt and Hank Williams Jr., the singer and guitarist Mike Henderson is clearly a blues disciple at heart.

Recorded "live in the studio" over just two days, *First Blood* recalls the 1960s heyday of white boys with electric blues guitars: John Mayall's Bluesbreakers with Eric Clapton, Peter Green's Fleetwood Mac, the first Chicken Shack album and vintage Johnny Winter all spring to mind.

Of course, that was then and this is now, and it has all been done a million times since then. But there is still a timeless magic that informs these educated, hard-hitting versions of songs by Otis Spann (*Bloody Murder*), Howlin' Wolf (*How Many More Years*), Elmore James (*Mean Mistreater*), Hound Dog Taylor (*Give Me Back My Wig*) and others.

● To order these albums, see coupon below left

## TOP TEN ALBUMS

- 1 Take Two ..... Robson & Jerome (RCA)
- 2 Spice ..... Spice Girls (Virgin)
- 3 Greatest Hits ..... Simply Red (East West)
- 4 Blue is the Colour ..... Beautiful South (Golf Discs)
- 5 Around the World — the Journey So Far ..... East 17 (London)
- 6 A Different Beat ..... Boyzone (Polydor)
- 7 Falling Into You ..... Celine Dion (Epic)
- 8 Christmas Party ..... Smurfs (EMI TV)
- 9 If We Fall in Love Tonight ..... Rod Stewart (Warrner Bros)
- 10 The Finest ..... Fine Young Cannibals (FFRR)

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## Who put the dip in the dipdiddipdip?

Vocal group music, or doo wop, the name it was given for the non-sense "doo wop, doo wop" vocal choruses of hundreds of records, is like baseball, a particularly American institution that never "appeared" to travel that well.

Based on the four-part harmonies created by groups such as the Ink Spots and the Mills Brothers in the 1930s and 1940s, but given a rhythm and blues and sometimes gospel tinge, it "spread" mainly popular with black audiences in America, before crossing over into the pop charts with groups like the Platters and the Drifters. It also inspired a generation of white groups such as Dion and the Belmonts and the Four Seasons.

Like many homegrown and regional styles of American popular music it all came crashing down after the arrival of the Beatles, although by that time many of the black groups were embracing the

more up-to-date rhythms of soul music.

Dead, then, but not forgotten. In the years since, the interest in doo wop has increased not only in America but, surprisingly, in Europe — home of many recent re-issues.

For those new to the genre, the best place to start is the recently released *Doo Wop Box 2* (Rhino R2/R4 72507), a four-CD, 101-track travel through the best of the music, which follows on from the pioneering *Box 1* issued a few years back. It starts with the former, gospel group, the Drifters, tackling *My Reverie* (which bears the intriguing composer credits of Larry Clinton/Claude Debussy) from 1951 and ends with the Italian/American group the Classics and *Till Then*, a Top 20 hit in America in 1963.

In between there is every-

thing from the original Leiber and Stoller hit, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, by the Robins, the falsetto and catchy *Peanuts* by Little Joe & the Thrillers and perhaps the best ever pop version of *Stormy Weather* by the Chicago group, the Spaniels.

For those who want to delve further, Deejay Records, a German company, has unleashed two volumes of Philadelphia doo wop: *Swan Masters Vol 1* (DJ-CD 55038) and *Vol 2* (DJ-CD 55039) which includes tracks like *Amazons and Coyotes* by the Dreamlovers, a group whose biggest claim to fame was that they sang behind Chubby Checker on the million-selling *The Twist* — but never got the credit for it.

Meanwhile, in Britain the doo wop torch is held firmly by Ace Records, whose latest offering, *Vocal Groups Coast to Coast* (Ace CDCHD 594) includes some rarely heard early tracks by the New York groups, the Mello Moods and the Cabineters, as well as some New Orleans and Los Angeles cuts including the Sonny Bono-penned *Can't Be*, by the Titans.



The fabulous Ink Spots, spiritual fathers of doo wop

JOHN CLARKE

## Coterie of many colours

THE Rare Music Club is the brainchild of pianist Keith Tippett, its mission to combine contemporary compositions, traditional folk music and freely improvised jazz, and explore the cross-currents between them. Although there have been long gaps between concerts, its renaissance at the Arncliffe was marked by some exceptional playing and the premier of a new jazz suite for better by saxophonist Paul Dunnall.

One effect of the Club's existence is that it has created audiences that are open-minded enough to concentrate intently across genres. "You can hear the audience listening," said Andrew Ball, the classical pianist who opened the programme with some brief fragments by Howard Skempton, before tackling Thomas Armstrong's *The Dance Maze*, a rugged rhythmic landscape of uncompromising modernism that prepared the ground for the contemplation of Vasily Lobanov's *Ode to Grass*.

Ball created an atmosphere of quiet intimacy in the large performance space and effec-

## JAZZ CLUB

Rare Music Club  
Arncliffe, Bristol

ively prepared his audience for the acoustic folk music of Martin Carthy, Chris Wood and Roger Wilson. This trio first worked together seven years ago, but has only recently reassembled, bringing Carthy's rich knowledge of traditional song into conjunction with Wilson and Wood's exploration of the folk and morris dance instrumental repertoire.

Their songs flow seamlessly from one to another, and lyrics about long-ago arranged marriages, drowning miller's daughters and gibbets, all decked out in minor keys, maintained the rapport between performer and audience established by Ball, despite a radical difference in style.

The loud, jagged, bombast that opened Dunnall's *Desire and Liberation* suite threatened to destroy the

mood. With reeds and brass at full stretch thrashing drums from Tony Levin and an amplified howl from Paul Rogers's bass, the contrast was startling. An impassioned solo from Dunnall and an angular trombone duo from Annie Whitehead and Chris Bridges initially suggested that the compositional element was a thin framework for extended free improvisation.

Then, after a bass solo of great skill and complexity, there was a dramatic change. The brass and reeds intoned like a gospel choir. Skip Liddington preached a trumpet solo over the top, before the horns fell back and Tippett produced a magnificent piano solo, mixing techniques, but never losing the gospel feeling.

The suite marks Dunnall's arrival as a band leader and composer in his own right, and the platform of the Rare Music Club emphasised his connections to a wide range of currents in contemporary music.

ALYN SHIPTON

## Tunes off the screen

## JAZZ ALBUMS

The central duo is joined by a rhythm section for some selections, and by violinist Johnny "Ice" Taylor on the Emidy pieces. But it is Sheppard's ability to conjure up haunting, evocative tenor sounds, buoyed by Lodder's facility in choosing the precise keyboard texture to showcase them, that makes this album so unequivocally listenable.

**JACK WALRATH AND HARD CORPS**  
*Journey, Man!*  
(Evidence ECD 22150-2)  
THE nine compositions by the American trumpeter Jack

Walrath on this passionate but informal-sounding album reflect not only his eclectic listening — he possesses 20,000 albums ranging from Albinoni to Cage and the OJB to Ornette — but also his experience with leaders as diverse as Ray Charles and Mural Richard Abrams.

The sextet assembled here — New York's finest saxophonist Craig Handy and Bobby Watson, pianist Kenny Drew Jr., bassist Ray Drummond and drummer Victor Lewis — is given its head throughout and responds magnificently, with Watson in particular contributing a number of blistering alto solos.

Many of Walrath's pieces are clearly indebted, particularly in their mood and tempo changes, to those of his most famous employer, Charles Mingus. But overall this is an intensely personal album packed with gutsy, right originals played by all concerned with great verve.

CHRIS PARKER

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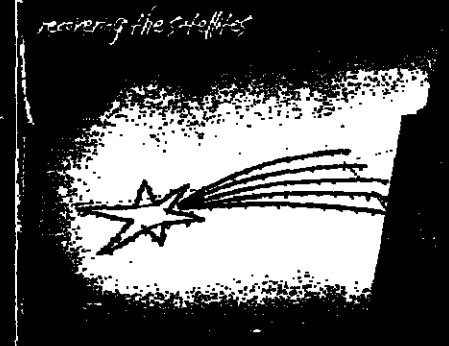
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## COUNTING CROWS



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## CRICKET

## Simpson launches scathing attack on English game

Alan Lee finds that retirement has not mellowed the former Australia coach

The thunderstorms that assailed Brisbane yesterday might just have been Bob Simpson having his say. For the first time in a decade, a Test series in this country was about to begin without Simpson in charge of the Australian team, and he was never likely to let the moment pass quietly.

Simpson was removed from office as Australia coach after the World Cup in March. He did not want to go — indeed, he had made a detailed written case for a new contract to take him beyond the Ashes series next summer — and now, with predictably opportunist timing, he has published a provocative book.

A forthright man, ambitious and uncompromising, Simpson made enemies during his ten years as coach and he acknowledges it without apology. His book, *The Reason Why*, is not the placatory good-natured gesture of a retired 60-year-old and none who know him would expect it to be. To those who disliked his style, his answer is blunt. "So what? My job was to help restore Australian cricket, not to win popularity contests."

He is also sharply conscious of the many who resented his undeniable triumphs. "They have publicly announced their delight at the success of the Australian team and privately seethed at the thought that Simmo might get some of the credit. Hard luck."

Simpson, a recent addition to the panel of international match referees, claims he was never given an adequate reason for his dismissal by the Australian Cricket Board other than it was time for a change. "This seems pretty shallow reasoning to me," he said, and of his replacement, Geoff Marsh, he added: "I fear that he has been handed a very demanding job two years before he is ready for it."

It is doubtful whether this offends Marsh, to whom Simpson is otherwise generous in his praise, and yet on the eve of his first home series as coach, against West Indies starting today, the new man took a step back by withdrawing

from regular press conferences, deliberately lowering his profile in a way that his predecessor would never willingly have done.

Humility was not a striking trait of Simpson the coach, as his book reflects. Amid the bluster of self-justification, however, there always was a sharp, analytical mind, one of the finest cricketing brains of his generation.

So when Simpson reviews the state of the English game and considers it risible, he cannot lightly be dismissed. Simpson coached Australia in five series against England and won the last four of them. He also spent two summers in



Simpson: outspoken

county cricket at Leicestershire and, true to form, attracted some severely mixed reactions.

"There was plenty of opposition to my attitude and methods," he recalls. James Whitaker, a hero in Leicestershire after leading the county to the championship last summer, does not escape criticism, having complained that the Australian coach "wanted us all to be Test cricketers."

Simpson is scornful. "Well, fancy that. Isn't that what everyone is supposed to aspire to? James probably meant that I wanted them all to work at their game as hard as Test cricketers. And I did," he says.

Simpson's concern for the English game seems short of sympathy. "I don't deny many of the standards are unjustifiably low, but I do wonder how on earth England let it happen. With their resources and tradition, they should be producing far better players than they are."

"At the moment they are obviously a bit of a basket case," which is sad. But it is also their own fault. The county system seems to have stuffed up badly. The overriding priority in English cricket is the welfare of the counties and, while that is understandable, it is, in the interests of the overall game, a selfish, introverted view.

He is equally scathing when he turns his sights from administrators to players. "I don't think the attitude of many county professionals does the game any favours... a high percentage of players at county level are not very good. And worse than that, they show precious little evidence of wanting to be."

"Too many cricketers are content with doing the minimum, scoring just enough runs or taking enough wickets to make sure they get a renewed contract, without any real desire to improve. Too many players accept the good life of county cricket without really stretching themselves. That attitude is going to be hard to change."

Then, intriguingly, Simpson credits this complacency to the exploits of Ian Botham. "As long as Botham could work miracles, nobody looked for any deeper flaws. And in that respect — and with no disrespect to a player I admire immensely — Botham was bad for English cricket," he says.

It is a withering denunciation of the English game, from a man who has never done other than speak his mind. Reluctant retirement has plainly not mellowed him.



Mohammad Wasim surveys the damage after being bowled by Doull yesterday

## White shows his true colours

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

AN UNBEATEN innings of 92 from Craig White helped England A into a commanding position against Victoria in Melbourne yesterday, and provided further evidence that the Yorkshire all-rounder has added a greater degree of consistency to his game.

White's England career has been in abeyance since the Trent Bridge Test against West Indies in August 1995, and Ronnie Irani and Mark Ealham have moved ahead of him in the pecking order of the Test all-rounder's spot. However, his performance since being selected for the A tour to Australia, where White received most of his cricketing education, belie the belief that he is no more than a good county player. He has taken crucial wickets, looked one of the best batsmen in the party and contributed greatly to the touring side's success to date. After being rested for the victory over the Australian Cricket Academy in Mount Gambier, he produced an impressive display to help England A to reach 231 for four at the end of a rain-hit opening day.

White had to overcome several interruptions as regular downpours forced the players off the field, yet he still hit 11 fours on his way to England A's biggest score of the tour during an innings lasting more than three hours.

More importantly, his determination helped the team to recover from another shaky start. Michael Vaughan lasted just eight overs before edging a rising delivery from David Saker to Peter Roach, the wicketkeeper, and Anthony McGrath was trapped leg-before by Damien Fleming's second over.

Owais Shah was brilliantly caught at short leg by Michael Foster off Tony Dodemaide as England slumped to 59 for three, mirroring previous collapses against South Australia and the Australian Cricket Academy. However, White, who was promoted to No. 4, shared a fourth-wicket partnership with Mark Butcher to put England A back in control.

The pair added 78 in 25 overs before Butcher was smartly stumped by Roach. White was dropped twice, on 45 and 85, but was still there when stumps were drawn. Aided by disciplined and dogged batting from Adam Hoolihan, the unbroken fifth-wicket partnership was worth 94 runs.

## SCOREBOARD

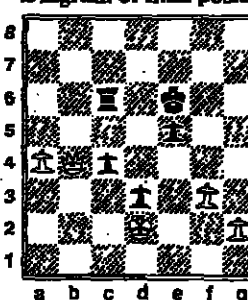
ENGLAND A: First Innings  
M A Butcher at Roach b Dodge 55  
M P Vaughan c Roach b Saker 55  
A McGrath b Dodge 17  
O A Shah c Foster b Dodemaide 17  
C White not out 92  
A J Hoolihan not out 45  
Extras (lb 4, nb 4) 8  
Total (4 wickets) 297  
M A Ealham, RW K Heggie, A F Giles, G Chappell and D W Headley to bat.  
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12 (2-21, 3-59, 4-137, 5-170, 6-231, 7-231, 8-231, 9-231, 10-231, 11-231, 12-231).  
BOWLING: Parnell 15-6-21, Saker 14-36-21, Dodemaide 19-6-31, Harvey 14-11-20, Stacey 10-1-50, Dodge 4-0-15, Harper 3-0-10.  
VICTORIA: 'A' C Dodemaide, W G Ayres, B J Hogg, M Foster, L D Harper, J J Harvey, D W Fleming, D J Saker, B J Stacey, G R Vintage, P J Roach.  
Umpires: G T Morrow and I W Stratford.

## Championship 1998

## Semi-Slav Defence

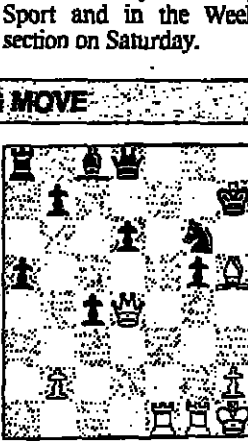
1 d4	d5
2 Nf3	Nf6
3 c4	c6
4 Nc3	d7
5 e3	Nd7
6 Bd3	dxc4
7 Bxc4	b5
8 Bc3	a6
9 e4	c5
10 f4	exd5
11 Nd5	exd5
12 d5	Qd6
13 Ng7	Bg7
14 O-O	Nc5
15 Bf4	Bb7
16 Re1	Rd8
17 Bc2	Rd5
18 Be5	Bxe5
19 Rxe5	Rxe5
20 Nxe5	Nd3
21 Qxd3	Re6
22 Qg3	Rf6
23 Qg7	Qe7
24 Re7	Qe7
25 Qxc7	Bd5
26 Qe5	d3
27 Qe3	Bc4
28 B3	Rf7
29 Q2	Rf7
30 Q3	Qe7
31 Bc4	b7
32 Kf2	Kf7
33 Kf3	Kf6
34 Qb4	Rc7
35 Kd2	Rc6
36 Kd1	Black resigns

## Diagram of final position



□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WINNING MOVE



White to play. This position is from the game Nimzowitsch - Marshall, New York 1927. The black knight is caught in a terrible crossfire of pawns and the white rooks are also prepared to enter the action. Unsurprisingly, Black did not last long. How did White continue?

Answers on page 50

Solution on page 50

## Doull rips through Pakistan to inspire fightback

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

SIMON DOULL, the New Zealand fast bowler, fired a warning to England's Test batsmen as he launched a stunning fightback against Pakistan on a dramatic opening day of the first Test in Lahore yesterday.

Doull, a 27-year-old right-arm seamer from Northern Districts, captured four for 21 in seven overs as Pakistan, who had earlier dismissed New Zealand for 155, slumped from 21 for no wicket to 37 for five. When bad light halted play ten overs early, Salim Malik and the wicketkeeper, Moin Khan, were together on 11 and five respectively, having taken the home side to 55 for five.

For New Zealand, who take on England next year in a three-Test series, starting in Auckland on January 24, it was a spectacular turnaround from the opening two sessions. After winning the toss and batting first, they struggled to recover from a poor start, in which Bryan Young and Justin Vaughan were out with only 16 on the board.

Their innings was briefly revived by a third-wicket stand of 51 between Adam Parore, the highest scorer with 37, and Stephen Fleming, who made 19. However, after lunch New Zealand lost their remaining seven wickets for 88.

Pakistan's collapse started when Doull bowled Saeed Anwar for eight with the total on 21. They then lost Ijaz Ahmed when he was adjudged leg-before to Chris Cairns.

Inzamam-ul-Haq was brilliantly taken at third slip without scoring and he was swiftly followed by Zahoor Ellahi, making his international debut, and Mohammad Wasim.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings  
J T O Vaughan bow b Shafiq 3  
A Young bow b Waqar 3  
A C Parore c Salim b Saeed 37  
S P Fleming c Salim b Mushaq 19  
J J Ailes bow b Mushaq 18  
M J Gurnsey c Mushaq b Waqar 18  
C L Cairns c Inzamam b Mushaq 4  
C J Harris b Waqar 16  
J L Gurnsey bow b Waqar 16  
N D Henric not out 25  
S B Douglas not out 15  
Extras (lb 4, nb 5) 9  
Total 155

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6 (2-16, 3-27, 4-37, 5-55, 6-63, 7-102, 8-102, 9-117).  
BOWLING: Saeed Anwar 10-2-14, 15-3-48, 16-4-21, 17-5-11, 18-6-11, 19-7-11, 20-8-11, 21-9-11, 22-10-11, 23-11-11, 24-12-11, 25-13-11, 26-14-11, 27-15-11, 28-16-11, 29-17-11, 30-18-11, 31-19-11, 32-20-11, 33-21-11, 34-22-11, 35-23-11, 36-24-11, 37-25-11, 38-26-11, 39-27-11, 40-28-11, 41-29-11, 42-30-11, 43-31-11, 44-32-11, 45-33-11, 46-34-11, 47-35-11, 48-36-11, 49-37-11, 50-38-11, 51-39-11, 52-40-11, 53-41-11, 54-42-11, 55-43-11, 56-44-11, 57-45-11, 58-46-11, 59-47-11, 60-48-11, 61-49-11, 62-50-11, 63-51-11, 64-52-11, 65-53-11, 66-54-11, 67-55-11, 68-56-11, 69-57-11, 70-58-11, 71-59-11, 72-60-11, 73-61-11, 74-62-11, 75-63-11, 76-64-11, 77-65-11, 78-66-11, 79-67-11, 80-68-11, 81-69-11, 82-70-11, 83-71-11, 84-72-11, 85-73-11, 86-74-11, 87-75-11, 88-76-11, 89-77-11, 90-78-11, 91-79-11, 92-80-11, 93-81-11, 94-82-11, 95-83-11, 96-84-11, 97-85-11, 98-86-11, 99-87-11, 100-88-11, 101-89-11, 102-90-11, 103-91-11, 104-92-11, 105-93-11, 106-94-11, 107-95-11, 108-96-11, 109-97-11, 110-98-11, 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## RUGBY UNION

# Longer league life may deny players best of both codes

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

IT BEGAN with the gasps that went around Twickenham. To rugby league followers there for the Middlesex Sevens, it was no more than they expected or were used to seeing from Wigan. Rugby union glomped the future in Henry Paul. Gary Connolly, Jason Robinson, Martin Offiah and most formidably, V'a'iga Tuigamala, who trampled over his now fellow Wasps in the final.

The possibilities seen by several English club coaches that day last May have sometimes been thrillingly realised in the past two months. It speaks volumes for the craft and professionalism in league that Robinson, Connolly and the Paul brothers, Henry and Robbie, have made such an impact on a foreign field. Now, those dabbling in both codes are apparently faced with a choice.

Rugby league's flaw this year was a shortage of fixtures. That problem is addressed by a season starting with the Challenge Cup next February and ending in mid-November with the last of the touring Australians' three matches against Great Britain. It effectively closes the window of opportunity on league players taking a business holiday in union, unless they desire a permanent switch.

Nigel Melville, Wasps' director of rugby, believes individuals must eventually commit themselves to one game.

"Tuigamala is contracted to Wigan for now, but I'd be lying if I said we wouldn't want him permanently," he said. "The league players return to their clubs in January and the extended Super League will limit their chances in union next season. When they come out of contract, it's another matter."

Tuigamala has rediscovered his love of union after his recent Western Samoa debut, but many of the talents he now has he owes to league and he is reluctant to give up his adopted game. As much as Robbie Paul, too, is enjoying his well-paid stint at Harlequins away from Bradford Bulls, his presence this week in Sydney at the launch of the ambitious 22-team world rugby league club championship, to be held with a choice.



Robinson: at crossroads

between June and October next year, indicated where his priorities lie.

Not that Paul would necessarily refuse another spell in union. "Although I'd be happy to return to Bradford, it is not satisfying leaving a job half done," he said. "It's been an eye-opener playing union for the first time when the game is exploding. If the chance arrived again, I'd take it, but league is the game I grew up with and the world club championship is the chance to take league to a new dimension."

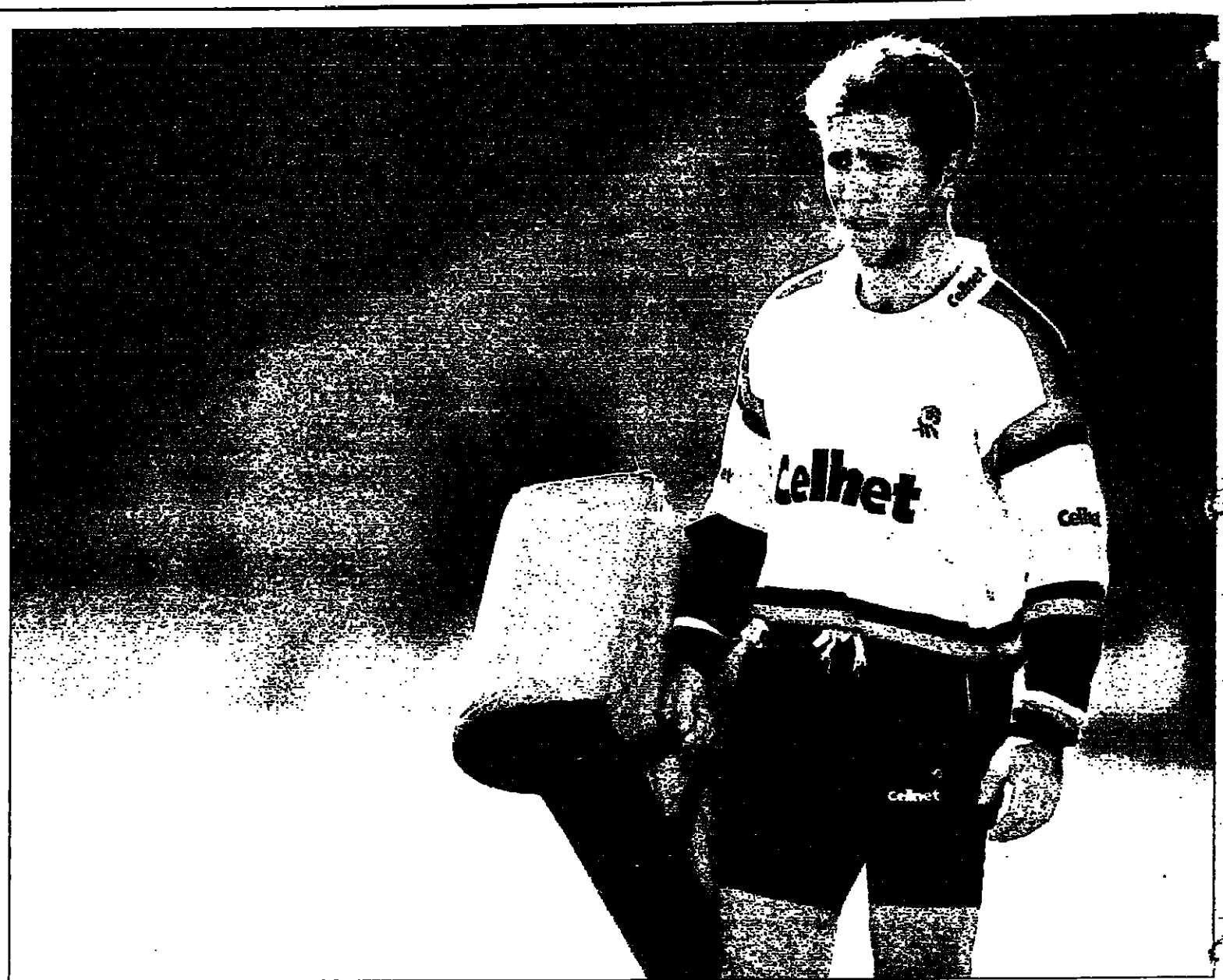
For most of the 70 players who have crossed to union in the past year, money has been the key factor. The first 12 months' money of the five-year £87 million Super League contract went on keeping many league clubs afloat, but more efficient management at clubs and the prospect of real wealth in the later stages of the world club tournament should help to curb the union drift.

At Wigan — where the prospect of £7 million being pumped into the financially-troubled club is held out by the takeover bid of Dave Whelan, owner of Wigan Athletic Football Club — Paul Harrison, the club spokesman, said: "Union clubs competing for players when contracts expire will be no different from competition from other league clubs. As usual, reports of rugby league's demise are premature."

League, however, is too small to withstand successfully the loss of even a handful of its leading combatants. Britain's recent 3-0 series defeat in New Zealand, where Connolly and Robinson were sorely missed, proved that. It is doubtful whether Harlequins and Bath could buy out their £1 million contracts with the Australian Rugby League. The Super League might, knowing their importance to the Britain side.

There is a sense, too, that Bath overplayed the rugby league hand. Robinson and Henry Paul appeared less than comfortable in the raw, combative arena at Cardiff in the Heineken Cup. In Harlequins' recent defeat by Sale, Connolly missed the lines of running completely, but all are learning and Dick Best, Harlequins' director of rugby, is convinced those doubling up in union would, in time, make international level.

"I'm a great student of league and we'll be watching the Super League closely in terms of its possible further developments," Best said.



De Glanville is bringing a strong track record and a positive attitude to his new role as England captain. Photograph: Marc Aspland

## De Glanville takes first steps forward

David Hands talks to a new England captain ready to put the past behind him but equally keen not to look too far ahead

How do you follow a world record-holder? Where are the guidelines on how to begin a new sporting era? How long will it be before Will Carling's England becomes part of rugby union history and Phil de Glanville's England has stamped its own authority on the sport?

Not that de Glanville will have been worrying about history during the few short days since November 4, when he found that he was to follow Carling as captain of England. The present has filled his time, the personal adjustment from being just another squad member to his focal point, at a time when both the squad and the way it seeks to play the game are changing fundamentally.

When the Bath captain says that he is looking no further than England's game against Italy at Twickenham tomorrow, the meeting with the New Zealand Barbarians a week later and the December 14 encounter with Argentina, one sympathises. For, in these three games, he will begin to come to terms with his new role and the demands that England and its rugby public place upon him. When Carling began his

59-match stewardship eight years ago, he was the fifth man to lead England that calendar year and the sport was in a state of flux. He hands over to de Glanville a perception of English rugby enhanced beyond recognition by success, by professionalism and — the down side — the ills that play-for-pay has brought in its wake. Apart from anything else, de Glanville's England has now to compensate for the inadequacies of administrators by playing so well as to make the public forget the quarrels and political strife that have marred this season.

All of these arguments will have run through Jack Rowell's mind before the national coach made his decision, back in September. He wanted a maturity, in individual and playing terms, that Lawrence Dallaglio perhaps lacked. Dallaglio is, after all, one of the new wave. Whereas Carling, at 22, had old sweats such as Peter Winterbottom, Mike Teague, Rob Andrew, Rory Underwood, Wade Dooley and

Paul Ackford to proffer advice, de Glanville is surrounded by youngsters with the exceptions of the two multi-capped men, Carling himself and Jason Leonard. De Glanville, at 28, has established a strong track record of his own, a mind honed at the universities of Durham and Oxford, a business career as a marketing consultant that he steadfastly refuses to relinquish for the dubious pleasures of full-time sport, a playing career hardened in the fire of Bath rugby at its apogee.

Above all, he knows Rowell from his days as Bath's coach. "If things need to be said to Jack, I won't hesitate to say them," de Glanville says with a glint in his eye. "I know he won't hesitate to say them to me." He acknowledges how life will change, not only for himself but for Yolanda, his wife, whom he met while at Durham. She was not aware of him as a rugby player then; she is now, with media crews camped out on the

road to glean words of wisdom from the latest occupant of a high-profile job. "We will keep our feet firmly on the ground," de Glanville promises, and it must be hoped, in the whirligig world of international sport, that he can.

He is in no doubt that leadership has to be a positive quality. "There must be a good empathy with the other players, but getting the balance right between being the captain and being part of the squad is difficult, particularly when you have come out of the squad to occupy the new role. I'll bring a positive attitude to the way we want to play the game and the way the squad environment develops."

"We are here first and foremost to win, secondly to enjoy ourselves. The balance, in the psychology of the squad, is very important. But when the going gets tough, I hope I won't revert to what have become known as 'traditional' English methods. Space and time are at a premium in international

rugby, which makes it difficult to play the kind of rugby we are aiming for, but players are developing the necessary mental and physical skills through the way the majority of their clubs have been playing this season.

"You need 15 players all reacting to the same kind of game and one of the most refreshing aspects of this season has been the consistency of approach by players from different clubs."

The build-up has already changed from Will's era, the different environment we find at Bisham Abbey, the new warm-up routines, but we are finding out what's right for this squad and not just seeking change for its own sake.

"We want a balanced game that will keep the opposition guessing. We are always going to play with options, not just running the ball all the time; kicking is part of the game too. But our general philosophy is to keep the ball in hand. It will take time to get our execution right and we would not pretend to be at the top of the world game right now — but we aspire to be there."

## Lomu has chance to re-establish himself

BY DAVID HANDS

JONAH LOMU will make his second appearance in Great Britain on Sunday, as part of the New Zealand Barbarians XV team to play the Northern Counties at Huddersfield in the one preparatory game prior to the meeting with England on November 30.

Lomu, who appeared in the Tevan Evans testimonial match at Llanelli last season, has suffered an undistinguished year after the huge impact he made during the 1995 World Cup. This brief visit will be his chance to re-establish himself in the absence of such experienced backs as Brian Bunce, Walter Little and Jeff Wilson.

The XV for Sunday will not be too far away from the team that will meet England at Twickenham, though Carlos Spencer, who enjoyed such a fruitful season with Auckland,

plays at stand-off half ahead of Andrew Mehrtens. Christian Cullen, the discovery of 1996, plays at full back.

Scotland and Wales got their World Cup Sevens qualifying campaigns off to flying starts with 13-try victories on the opening day of the tournament in Dubai yesterday. James Craig helped himself to 31 points, with five tries and three conversions, while Scott Nicol scored 25 through a hat-trick of tries and five conversions as the Scots crushed Zambia 57-0 in their opening pool E match.

Wales beat Singapore 77-0, with all seven players scoring tries, and then beat a strong and spirited Zimbabwe side 31-14.

NEW ZEALAND BARBARIANS vs Northern Counties, Huddersfield, Sunday: C Cullen, J Lomu, A Ieremia, L Shersness, G Osborn, C Spencer, J Marshall, W Allen, S Fitzpatrick, O Brown, D Mwa, R Brooke, G Taylor, A Brown, T Handell

## Summit talks can bring greater union to Europe

GERALD DAVIES

Next Monday a meeting is to take place in Dublin to determine the future of European rugby fixtures. The success of the Heineken Cup this season has ensured that its future is guaranteed. Whether the present format remains — the number of clubs, the complement of matches, when they are to be played and so on — is a matter for debate. What is certain is that this tournament will provide the main

focus of the season for English, French and Welsh clubs, the Scottish districts and Irish provinces.

Present at this meeting will be the five directors of the European Rugby Cup (ERC) committee, as well as five other members who will represent the clubs, districts and provinces of the five nations where difficulties have arisen. It is hoped that the many conflicts and divergent interests that marred the competition last year, and which have continued in other forms and by other means this season, will receive attention. The unions and clubs must begin to unite in the interest of the game as a whole. Clearly, there are too many arguments and too many matches at present.

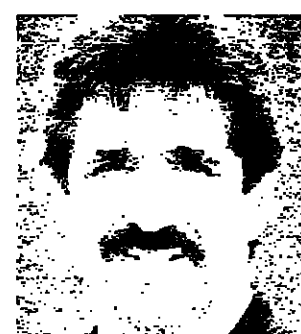
If the European tournament came alive here last weekend, it has been so from the beginning in France. For Marcel Marín, France's representative on the ERC, this response has been particularly satisfying. His vision now is that this feeling should be shared among others in Europe.

"It is important that the unions, clubs and provinces and so on should come together," he said. "There are a lot of fixtures which conflict with one another at the moment. We must make rugby a sport in Europe which is saleable, profitable and of the style which will get the maximum number of people watching and playing."

A 17-point questionnaire has been circulated to all those attending the meeting. What, for example, is a sustainable number of matches? And over how many weeks? How many fixtures should be at home? With how many matches would the clubs be happy, from the playing point of view as well as financial viability?

The questions go beyond club fixtures, domestic and European, to include international matches before and after Christmas. These must dovetail together.

"There is a fabric that needs to be kept together not torn apart. But the



Rugby union commentary

season must not be congested," Marín, who will contest the presidency of the French federation next month, said. "We need to agree on the proper form of the season in order that we know what we can offer television companies and the sponsors. There must be a coherent shape to rugby in Europe and not for each country to determine selfishly for itself."

"But the base must remain large. It is fundamental that the appeal must not only be to the few clubs. Money

cannot all go to a small number of rich clubs. Such a concentration would not ultimately be to the benefit of rugby. This is why it is important to maintain a second tier of competition. Of course, television and sponsors are interested largely in the main event. We must not ignore the rest, however. The profits may not be shared equally, but nor must all the money go into the pockets of the few; there is a shared responsibility. The

richer for it. "We must not allow what happened to rugby by league to happen to rugby union. Rugby league remains limited to a small band of clubs in a very small number of countries. Rugby union has a duty to get as many players as possible and as many people watching as possible."

"We must also be concerned that there should be a sense of continuity. What if, for example, Harlequins or Leicester or any other team in the Heineken Cup did not qualify next season? Do they drop out altogether? What incentive should they have to play in the autumn? Having experienced European rugby one year, their motivation would be very low without it. This cannot be allowed to happen."

"We need to be aware also of the emerging nations. If the Heineken tournament is dominated by teams from the five nations, as it is at the moment, it does not mean that it should always remain like this."

"When France began playing the other four countries in the early days, they were always beaten by large scores. This is clearly not the case any more. The French game was able to develop very quickly because of their continued involvement. Therefore, we should consider other countries in the rest of Europe."

"We should think of those who are taking their first steps in rugby's broad community, like Spain and Germany. Perhaps we should consider playing them in the second competition. In that way, we might be able to give them an incentive and to push the game forward. That is the kind of expansion we should aim for."

"There should always be a channel between the top and small clubs, between the major countries and the emerging ones. Our view, clubs and unions, of what the possibilities are should not be constrained and narrow. If we accept this interweaving of shared interests, then the future of rugby is very exciting."

### RUGBY LEAGUE: LEEDS CLUBS SET UP DEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL WING

## Sterling wanted in player-share agreement

PAUL STERLING, a wing in both codes, is about to follow Martin Offiah at London Broncos and Bedford in becoming only the second jointly-owned rugby league and rugby union player in a combined deal by the Leeds league and union clubs, who now share the Headingley ground (Christopher Irvine writes).

The player-share arrangement is the first of its kind since the marriage of convenience between the two clubs ten months ago. "There will be a cash

assistance provided by Leeds RU," Gary Hetherington, the Leeds league chief executive, said. "It was ourselves who made the approach to Hull (where Sterling is on the transfer list at £100,000). The arrangement is that his union does not overlap with the league."

Sterling, 30, a late starter in both sports, joined Hull from Bradford and Bingley rugby union club in 1993. He made one appearance for his former union side this season before Hull demanded a fee. Last year he represented Great Britain,

in the rugby league world sevens in Sydney. Sterling is expected to join Leeds, from Hull, in exchange for Matthew Schulz, a forward.

Leeds yesterday announced a five-figure sponsorship deal with the fast-food chain, McDonald's, for the family stand and junior supporters' club.

Garry Schotfield, the former Leeds and Great Britain stand-off half, last night received the Rugby League Writers' Association merit award for services to the game.

## TOP OF THE TABLES

Today's TES contains the most detailed set of school and college performance tables to be published by any newspaper in England and Wales. Forty-eight pages of results plus unrivalled analysis and comment.

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GOLF: WAY AND McLEAN SAMPLE PERILS OF EUROPEAN TOUR QUALIFYING EVENT AS THEY SEEK TO RE-ESTABLISH CAREERS

# Prodigies reunited at school of hard knocks

FROM JOHN HOPKINS  
GOLF CORRESPONDENT  
IN SAN ROQUE

PAUL WAY and Mike McLean were two names to watch in British junior golf in the late Seventies. They were straight out of the Bush Street Kids, with mischief in their eyes and cheeks as rosy as Kentish apples. Irreverent and cocky, they brought fame to the Hugh Christie School in Tonbridge.

Not that either was a keen student — one got into trouble for practising on the school playing fields — but it did not matter. Golf was going to be their livelihood, that much was certain. They were prodigies.

Way was the cockier of the two, the more outspoken, the one who did everything at 100mph. He had all the confidence of youth. Alex Hay, the professional at Woburn and BBC commentator, once said that Way swung the club more naturally than anyone he had seen. Way was the powerful one; McLean, always a short hiter, the more subtle. Way tried to overpower courses, McLean to outwit them.

Born within three weeks of one another in 1963, they turned professional in 1981. It took McLean only two years to win a tournament, and that year, Way, who had been a Walker Cup player at 18, became the second youngest Ryder Cup player for Europe.

Last season, Way won £24,300, McLean £37,700. Even combined, it amounts to £62,000 less than Colin Montgomerie won to finish top of the order of merit.

For the two men of Kent to compete on the European Tour next year, they had to submit themselves to the rigours of the qualifying school, and since they had done almost everything else in their careers together, it was appropriate that their attempts to regain former glories began yesterday at precisely the same time, on the same course.

As Way and McLean practised their putting before beginning their rounds, they were surrounded by former colleagues such as Brian

Marchbank, 38, the Scottish professional champion, and others they had never set eyes on before. "This is the second time I've been here," Marchbank, who competed on the Tour every year from 1979 to 1995, said. "I came last year

Leading scores ..... 49

and didn't make it. If I don't make it this year, I shall definitely not be back again. I've had enough. I shall have to find something else to do."

McLean began well. He birdied two holes going out, but came home in a nervous 39 for a 73, six strokes behind Matthew Goggin, of Australia, the lowest scorer at San Roque. "That typified the way I have played all year," McLean said. "I just cannot be as aggressive as I ought to be and then I start to steer the ball from the tee. When I do that, I miss fairways."

His visor had the word "Ambiance" printed on it. "It's the name of a neighbour's shirt company," McLean explained. "The neighbour sponsors me. He has a son who has muscular dystrophy and is in a wheelchair, and I spend a lot of time with him. He's great. He plays golf from his wheelchair. When I look at him, I wonder: 'Why do I worry about myself?'"

Way, meanwhile, had had a nightmare of a round, in keeping with a season in which he missed the cut in 20 out of 26 events. Three strokes were squandered on the 8th, when his drive bounced on a cart-path and was never seen again, and when he left a putt short on the 10th, he swore in a way that would have earned him a fine for an audible obscenity had he been playing tennis. Was this really the man who had won the Dutch Open in 1982, the PGA championship in 1985 and the European Open in 1987?

There is a saying on the Tour that you cannot win a tournament on the first day, but you can lose it. After an 81, the highest of the day at San Roque, Way has surely lost all chance of continuing after the

72-hole cut. "I played dreadful," Way said, indicating that 15 years on the circuit has indoctrinated him in Tour-speak. "This is ridiculous. I just don't know what's going on."

"I didn't enjoy that out there today," McLean said. "I know what the problem is with me. I have seen too many bad shots over the years and I worry about when one is going to come. Then I start steering the ball around and then I'm in trouble."

Way and McLean are only 33, the same age as Montgomerie and seven years younger than Costantino Rocca. They are worlds away from where they had once been. What price fame now?

## FOOTBALL

## Unhappy Warnock states his case

BY DAVID POWELL

NEIL WARNOCK, the Plymouth Argyle manager, has taken the bold and unusual step of issuing a prepared statement to take his chairman to task over his running of the club. So troubled is Warnock, who led his team to promotion last season, that his document runs to 900 words.

Warnock stormed out of the Nationwide League second division home match with Chesterfield on Tuesday night before the final whistle, with Plymouth 3-0 down. "I went into the match against Chesterfield at my lowest ebb and told Mick Jones [his assistant] that mentally I was burnt out and now it was affecting my health," Warnock said in his statement, which he released on Wednesday night. "In fact, I felt so bad I walked out ten minutes before the end because I had had enough."

The manager was anxious yesterday to ensure that this should not be interpreted as a case similar to that of Steve Coppell. Coppell, who quit Manchester City citing stress, but Warnock said yesterday that it was not that he could not take the pressure, but that he was "mentally fed up" at what he regarded as a lack of support from Dan McCauley, the Plymouth chairman.

"It [the club] is in crisis," Warnock's statement read. The manager complains of his frustration at failing to secure a budget and an impending maximum wage and relocation structure that, he suggests, would restrict him to non-League signings.

Warnock added yesterday that: "If he [the chairman] does not want the club to go forward, he has got the wrong manager. If things are not resolved, and this cannot go on much longer, it is pointless me carrying on."

Warnock said he was not worried how the chairman might react to his statement.

The worst thing that could happen is that I get sacked," Warnock said. "I thought: 'What have I got to lose?'"

Claviano Bonetti, the Tranmere Rovers forward, won his civil lawsuit against Brian Laws, the former Grimsby Town manager, yesterday. A private hearing at the High Court in London ruled that Laws had no prospect of a successful defence and that a full trial was therefore unnecessary.

The case followed a dressing-room incident on February 10, when Bonetti was a Grimsby player after the first division match at Luton Town. The Italian was left with a fractured cheekbone. The amount of money he will receive in damages has yet to be decided.

## Woods is lost as Norman breezes round

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN SYDNEY

GREG NORMAN headed off for a round with Bill Clinton yesterday afternoon, secure in the knowledge that the score he had posted in the morning in the first round of the Australian Open at The Australian Club here would be hard to beat. Sure enough, Norman's 67, five under par, was too good for the rest of the field, including Tiger Woods, who needed a birdie on the last hole to break 80 and was tied in 92nd place out of 126.

He was not alone, however. On a day when the breeze swirled every which way and only ten players broke par, Craig Parry and David Frost, both well-hunched, also had 70s. Klas Eriksson, a Swede who thinks Australian courses are wonderful, came closest to Norman, one shot behind.

Robert Stephens, of Victoria, was third, on 69, with Gary Evans and David Howell, of England, in the group on 70. Howell, 21, who is in his first year as a professional, started with an eagle three, double-bogeyed the short second, came back with four birdies and then dropped two shots in the last three holes. He is one of those rare beings to achieve something in golf that Woods now never will — he was on a winning Walker Cup team, a member of the Great Britain and Ireland side that beat the United States, Woods included, at Royal Portcawl last year.

Yesterday, after a frustrating round, Woods said: "It was a rough day. My good shots turned out bad and my bad shots turned out horrible. I felt my decision-making was pretty good but I just couldn't execute the shots. I was out of

rhythm. I've had a lot of days like that — more than I would like — but it's part of the game. I tried my heart out on each and every shot."

Norman, relaxed and affable, was more like his old self, unlike the sulky person who won the championship last year. Convinced that his collapse at the Masters in April was mechanical rather than mental, Norman has been working on a couple of swing changes with David Leadbetter. "They're very, very minor, but they feel huge to me," he said, "and I feel naked out there. Probably nobody else notices the difference, but it feels very, very strange and difficult to me."

This being the Australian Open and Woods being here, Norman, the competitor, forgot about swing changes and had his best thinking day on the golf course for some months. "I focused on my shots, not my swing," he said afterwards. He did not lose concentration after 13 or 14 holes, as he admitted he had been doing, and six birdies in all, with four in the five holes from the 11th, confirmed that the Shark was sharp.

Later, at the New South Wales club, where the security men had been preparing for the presidential visit for a couple of weeks, the President's opening drive was enough for Norman to send back to the pro's shop for more Maxflis.

Later, however, Norman was complimentary of his playing partner. "Give me 60 days and I'd have him breaking 80 every day. He has a lot of talent and knows about the game," he said.

## Customs officers knuckle down to duty

FROM MEL WEBB  
IN LA MANGA

IT WAS a fair cop; the forces of good had everybody bang to rights. The men from the Customs and Excise are used to making big-time arrests, and four of their number demonstrated their ability to feel collars yesterday when they moved in on the South course here and in one smooth operation laid one collective hand on a piece of crystalware with a street value of several thousand pounds.

The classy glass from Waterford Crystal is on offer to the national winners of The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge, and no-



body did better than the National Investigation Service of Her Majesty's Customs and Excise, who ended the first day of the competition with a four-point lead.

The Duty men John Nicholson, Colin Tennant, Colin Shaw and Malcolm Woodall — could be proud of their Stableford points total of 85 (or 99.875 including VAT). Admittedly, it was a perfect day for golf, but the course is not easy, even when the conditions are as benign as they were here.

It is a fair golf course, but a tough one — those looking for easy conquests might as well push off somewhere down the costa where the sporting life is a little less taxing and where, no doubt, some of the Customs men's former clients are presently domiciled.

Customs and Excise have a narrow but potentially still vital advantage over ZET



David Tennant, of United Distillers, plays from the 7th of the South course yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

## SCORES

FIRST DAY: 85: HM Customs and Excise National Investigation Service; 81: ZET Insurance Services; 79: Allied Dunbar Head Office; 78: Northern Ireland Civil Service Sports Association; 77: Arthur Andersen; 76: United Distillers; 73: Armstrong Watson & Co; 71: Deloitte & Touche; 69: Jaguar Centre (Hull); 67: Reuters; 64: Charles Russell.

This is one of those experiences that you're lucky to have once in a lifetime and, wherever we finish, we're going back to England on Saturday having thoroughly enjoyed our trip here. We've been made to feel special."

It seems that the two lead-

ing teams have been drawn together by kismet — they had never met before they travelled to Spain together on Tuesday, but already all eight are firm friends. Off the course, that is — on it they are trying, in the civilised way that golfers do these things, to slaughter each other.

The leaders produced the best score on the front nine of 44, and relied on sound teamwork, apart from two high spots. The first came on the 9th, when Tennant rammed in a high-speed putt from not far short of 30 feet for a birdie and four points. It was as well it dropped — if it had not, it was on its way to Alicante. The other highlight came on

the 15th, where they had their only seven-point haul.

Meanwhile, mayhem ensued by the 18th green when David Laif, a member of the ZET team, put his ball high in a palm tree alongside the putting surface. Laif was told he had to identify his ball before he could take a penalty drop, and in the end it was left to Scott Moffat, one of the Challenge support team, to shin up the tree and knock Laif's ball down.

It involved ladders, metal rods and, finally, a golf club before the ball was dislodged. "It's not mine," Laif said with a broad grin. And the truly amazing thing is that somebody believed him.

## SPORTS LETTERS

### Telford championships offer worthy stage

From Mr John Cuffley

Sir, I found it difficult to relate my experience at the British national tennis championships to the comments in the opening paragraphs of Alex Ramsay's report (November 14).

The championships probably do come as a bit of a culture shock to a few of our top players, but this event gives a considerable number of up-and-coming players the opportunity to have a go at the leading British performers in serious competition, thereby not only improving their skills and experience but also, in some cases, beating them. That is the way to develop new champions.

I am surprised that the absence of windows in the building is criticised. There are plenty in the social area. Sport played indoors at this level needs to have good, even lighting conditions which the Telford Racquet Centre pro-

vides, especially in the centre court used for the main matches. Nobody there needs to look at the passing scene, while players, officials and spectators do not want the distraction of shadows or bright patches of sunlight on court due to changing conditions outside.

As for enthusiasm, most players showed great commitment and effort, though a few tended to acknowledge through body language, before the last point, when a lost match seemed inevitable. The spectators, however, especially for the centre court, were numerous, appreciative, understanding and encouraging, even in the earlier stages of the championships.

The spectators were particularly tolerant of the temper tantrums shown at times by one or two players, some of whom progressed to the later rounds. Some should have been old enough to know bet-

ter. As a number of school parties attended during the week for coaching, as well as to see quality tennis, I felt it unfortunate that a small minority of players let themselves down by unseemly screaming over big points.

If some of the higher-ranked players suffered from championship torpor, having played an exhausting programme through the summer, that is perhaps the time when they should be topped from their perch by youthful successors. That, after all, is the law of the jungle, which is reflected in international sport.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN CUFFLEY,  
6 The Heighways,  
Upper Court,  
Shrewsbury,  
Shropshire.

## Sadly missed

From Mr P. A. Tyler

Sir, Sir Donald Bradman's place among the great Test captains is indisputable, but John Woodcock (The Great Captains, November 13) is mistaken when he names Grinnett as one of the bowlers who contributed to Bradman's successful captaincy. O'Reilly, Lindwall, Miller, yes; but the end of Grinnett's Test career coincided with Bradman's accession to the leadership of Australia. He never played a Test match under Bradman.

Grinnett was sadly missed in 1936-37 and 1938 by his old partner, O'Reilly.

Yours faithfully,  
P. A. TYLER,  
Wildwood, The Hyde,  
Winchcombe, Cheltenham,  
Gloucestershire.

### Unhappy memories for Astle

From Mr John Moynihan

Sir, Keith Pike included Jeff Astle's "sad toe-poke" for England against Brazil in the 1970 World Cup finals in his list of great football misses (November 16).

I was sitting among a group of England supporters a few yards away from the net in Guadalajara, Mexico, that steaming hot day when the England substitute (for Bobby Charlton) was presented with a glorious chance of putting his team level after Jairzinho had put Brazil ahead in the second half.

We were still savouring the magic of Gordon Banks's save from Pelé at the same end in the first half and a goal from the West Bromwich Albion striker would have capped an extraordinary afternoon for

the followers of the reigning World Cup champions.

A toe-poke might well have done the trick — but with Felix quivering yards away as a redundant goalkeeper, Astle, with two open farm gates aim at, used his left foot to shoot too quickly past the near left-hand post.

I recorded in my diary: "Astle stood there with his shoulders sagging. My friend Harry from Liverpool turned to me, his face squinting rage. 'By Christ, did you see that?' 'He could have blown the bugger in. My grandma could have put that away...'"

I can still hear the Brazilian fans yelling with glee... and so too must Jeff Astle.

Sincerely,  
JOHN MOYNIHAN,  
102 Ilford Road, SW10.

## Unhappy motto

From Mr David J. Watkin

Sir, Professor Emeritus Herbert H. Huxley's letter (November 15), discussing the use of Latin mottoes by professional football clubs, prompts me to share with your readers perhaps the only example of their use by football supporters themselves.

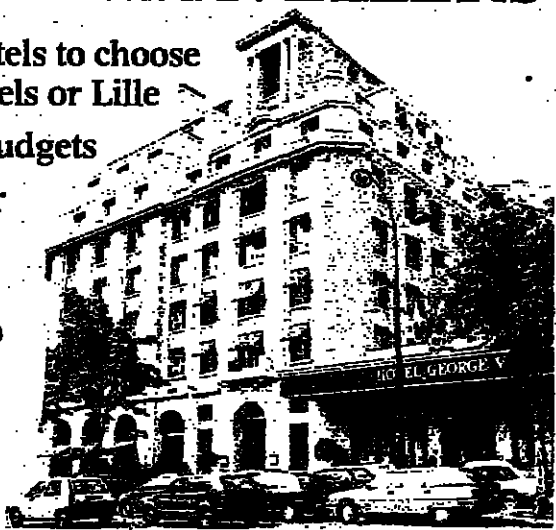
The West Bromwich Albion fanzine (Grorry Dick) has adopted a motto which is particularly appropriate to our club and, I'm sure, to many others. Under a shield, with a distinctly unhappy expression, is the maxim: *Semper te fallant [sic] (They always let you down!)*

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID J. WATKIN,  
45 Denleigh Road,  
Kingswinford,  
West Midlands.

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Today's Eurostar token is on page 39

CHANGING TIMES

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211.



## TENNIS

# Brilliance of Becker is too much for Sampras

FROM DAVID MILLER IN HANOVER

IN A little more than two hours of glorious tennis, Boris Becker, the Australian Open champion who turns 29 today, defeated Pete Sampras, the US Open champion, 7-6, 7-6, in the round-robin stage of the world championship of the Association of Tennis Professionals. The two sets contained a torrent of brilliant shots by both men, adversity being instantly met with counter-attack. Sampras had his chances to have won either set, and not just in the first tie-break.

On a day that began with Andre Agassi, who has pulled out of the rest of the tournament because of illness, being fined five per cent of his tour earnings for the year — some £35,000 — and excluding grand-slam event winners, which for him has not been much — Becker and Sampras brought adventure, courage, excellence and dignity. Agassi's fine was for failing to appear at the draw on Monday, rather than playing like a dunce against Sampras on Wednesday.

After his straight-sets victory against Yevgeny Kafelnikov on the opening day, Becker is assured of his place in the semi-finals tomorrow, though it is worth noting that on the four occasions that he and Sampras have previously met in the round-

Both men revealed the level of nerve and a technical quality that has won them a multitude of championships, Becker being the leading contemporary player in the accumulation of indoor titles. At times he may seem like a bull, and yesterday his was the more severe serve over the two hours. Yet at moments he can tread his way through the trickiest of china shops with a fine touch that belies his muscularity. He could never intimidate Sampras, however, whose temperament throughout was Becker's equal.

When Sampras led 5-4 and two double faults by Becker left the German standing three set points down, the set seemed surely to belong to Sampras. Now we saw Becker at his inimitable best.

Two aces followed by a superb, deep forehand volley brought him to deuce. Another ace and a rally that ended with dinked cross-court backhand by Sampras that dropped wide made it 5-5.

Becker led 5-3 in the tie-break and then had his first set point 6-5. Each in turn had two set points as the score climbed to 9-9. A third for Becker was denied him in a 16-stroke rally when Sampras eventually forced him into a forehand error. On his fourth set point, at 11-10, Becker got home after another long rally.

Neither man could sustain such a level of play and the second set proceeded almost ordinarily to 3-3. Becker trailed 30-0, only to unearth once more his powers of resilience. A retrieving half-volley, then another retrieving backhand — when he fell but still climbed back to his feet to put away a winner on his next shot — gave him 30-all. He was then 40-30 down, yet still saved the game to lead 4-3.

Sampras had a further chance to level the match when he broke service to lead 5-4. Becker replied by breaking back for 5-5.

It went to another tie-break and in a trice, Becker was leading 4-0. Sampras clambered back to 5-3, but an ace gave Becker two match points. Sampras, after a long wait for the noise to subside, saved the first with a deep second service, but two superb backhands by Becker carried the day. Britain begin their quest to win promotion to the champions' division of the European Women's Team Championship today when they play Denmark at the Redbridge Sports Centre, Barkingside, Essex.

The other teams in the blue group of the first division are Poland, who Britain play tomorrow, and Spain, their opponents on Sunday, who are favourites to win the group and promotion. The Britain team consists of Sam Smith, Rachel Volett, Clare Wood and Megan Miller.

The team that finishes second in the group will remain in the first division, while the two teams in third and fourth places will be relegated to the second.



Becker delivers another ace during his memorable victory over Sampras in straight sets yesterday

## Martinez makes break point

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN NEW YORK

TENNIS players are a strange breed. The pampered few can, and will, complain about absolutely anything. This week at the Chase Championships has been no exception, with the top players having a good old moan about how hard they have to work for their not inconsiderable pay packets. The season is too long, there are no breaks, holidays are few and far between — it is a tough life as a millionaire tennis player.

It is also remarkable how complaining and losing seem to go hand in hand. All those who have expressed doubts over the new ranking system, due to come into effect next year, have either lost at Madison Square Garden or come here on the back of a defeat elsewhere. The new system is designed to encourage players to play more, the more tournaments you play, the better your chances of moving up the rankings.

Steffi Graf, who pulled out of the final in Philadelphia last week, Conchita Martinez, who lost in the

first round of the same tournament, and Monica Seles, who retired injured here on Tuesday, have all complained that they are too tired to play their best all year round.

Certainly, Martinez was not at her best but was good enough to defeat Judith Wiesner 6-1, 3-6, 6-4, in the first round on Wednesday night.

It was not a great match. Martinez is still suffering from a virus and, to make matters worse, she tweaked a hamstring at the end of the second set. But against Wiesner she did enough. With the win in the bag, Martinez promptly announced that, ideally, she would like the players to have three months off at the end of every year.

"I think that the season is too long, we play a lot of tournaments this year with the Olympics, Fed Cup — it is really too much," she said. "We are one of the few sports that doesn't have an off-season and we are fighting for that. Hopefully, one day we will get it and then we can have time to recover from our injuries."

Her compatriot, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, is only angling for a two-month break but is still adding her

weight to the argument. She made her way into the quarter-finals by beating Brenda Schultz-McCarthy 6-4, 7-6 in 71 minutes.

Since she overtook Graf at the top of the rankings at the beginning of last year, Sanchez Vicario has not been the same player. This year she has reached a handful of finals but has seldom managed to win. She was so fed up with life last month that she took a holiday and did not touch a racket for three weeks. "I think it's true that we don't have so much time off because there are so many tournaments and you have to play most of them," she said. "But I think three months off is too much."

Two players, though, Jana Novotna and Martina Hingis, have hit top form on their way to Manhattan and there has not been a peep out of them about their workload. In fact, Novotna, having brushed aside Amanda Coetzer 6-4, 6-1 to increase her winning streak to 13 matches, said: "I am looking forward to the ranking change. The system we had in the past was encouraging players not to play, and I think that's not right."

## SAILING

## Tibbs takes lead as fleet heads for Horn

BY EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS TIBBS, the skipper of *Concert*, who surprised many by finishing third in the first leg of the BT Global Challenge, took the early lead in the second as the fleet headed south towards Cape Horn yesterday, with a 20-knot easterly breeze pushing them along under full canvas.

This is a stage that proved decisive for the winning yacht, *Nuclear Electric*, last time round. Barring gear failure in the Southern Ocean, the chances are that the crew which gets to the Horn first will get away into new and stronger winds first, and not get caught before the finish at Wellington, New Zealand.

Four years ago, John Chittenden, then skipper of *Nuclear Electric*, made a break to the east of the pack as the fleet ran down the Brazilian coast and managed to pull out a lead of over 200 miles, which was enough to set up his overall victory. The early part of the second leg is a particularly tactical one, with the navigators and skippers having to decide whether to stay inshore or head out, as Chittenden did.

Two days after a wet and misty restart in light winds off Rio, it is too early for any dramatic moves. The yachts are closely bunched over a 50-mile front with only 14 miles between the leader and backmarker, Adrian Donovan's *Heath Insured II*.

Tibbs, who had the best start, has managed to hold his lead for now, but he is being pressed closely by the second-placed finisher in leg one, Simon Walker, on *Toshiba Wave Warrior*, with Andy Hindley, on *Save The Children*, on his heels.

Richard Merryweather, on *Commercial Union*, is in fourth place while the disabled crew on *Time & Tide* are doing well to hold ninth position, two places ahead of Mike Golding, the race leader, on *Group 4*, who had one of the worst starts. Among the skippers who will be hoping for a more convincing performance this leg is Richard Tudor, who has the helm on *Nuclear Electric*. He was one of the pre-race favourites, but never recovered from sicking to the African coast on the first leg and emerged at Rio in tenth place, nearly 41 hours behind Golding.

A message from his crew, who were in fifth position yesterday, summed up feelings for many. "The Rio start was a far cry from our departure from Southampton with only a handful of boats to see us off." From *Group 4*, meanwhile, signs of nervousness about what is coming after Cape Horn. "Our emotions are in turmoil as we set off on this most daunting leg."

## IN BRIEF

## Spracklen named as women's coach

MIKE SPRACKLEN, rowing coach to Steve Redgrave when he won his Olympic gold medals in Los Angeles and Seoul, is to return to the United States to join the British coaching team for the next Olympic Games (Mike Rosewell writes). He will be the women's chief coach from January 1.

Spracklen's American eighth won world championship medals each year from 1993 to 1995.

With possible lottery money still awaited, the funding of the new position comes from XP Plc, which has sponsored the rapidly-improving British women's squad for two years under the coaching of Bill Mason.

## Scotland ahead

Golf: Ernie Els and Wayne Westner, revelling in water-logged conditions at the Erinvale course in Somerset West, South Africa, gave the home nation a two-stroke lead on the first day of the World Cup of Golf yesterday. The South Africans had an eight-under-par combined score of 136, ahead of Denmark. Scotland finished third on 139, thanks to scores of 69 from Paul Lawrie and 70 from Andrew Coltart.

## Hope fading

Tennis: Britain's last hope in the Pepsi/AMF World Cup at the Dundonald Ice Bowl in Belfast, is fifth but looking resigned to losing the women's title she won last year in Brazil. In the men's singles, Paeng Nepomuceno, of the Philippines, stretched his lead to 385 pins over his nearest rival, Sam Goh, of Singapore.

## Hearing delayed

Athletics: The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) acceded to legal pressure yesterday and delayed the arbitration hearing for the drugs case of the Australian sprinter, Dean Capobianco, who tested positive for the steroid, stanozolol, at a meeting in Holland last May.

John Walker, 44, the New Zealand world record medal and Olympic gold medal winner, has Parkinson's disease. Walker was the first miller to run under 3min 50sec.

## Snow advances

Real tennis: Julian Snow, the British No 1, underlined his good form when he reached the semi-finals of the British Land British open championship, defeating Ruairaid Guan for the last of only five games. The Harbour Club professional, Lachie Deuchar, also reached the last four by coming through 6-5 in the final set against his fellow Australian, Frank Filippelli.

## RESULTS

ROUND ROBIN: White group: G. Hasek (Czech) vs R. Krajicek (Holl) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6; M. Chang (US) vs J. Hasek 6-7, 7-6, 6-1. Red group: B. Becker (Ger) vs P. Sampras (US) 7-6, 7-6.

robin stage, the loser has gone on to win the final.

These were the best two consecutive sets I have seen this year. After Becker's five-set victory over Sampras in the final in Stuttgart three weeks ago, Sampras knew well enough beforehand that he would again be confronting both Becker and a hoisterous home crowd. Yet the 15,000 spectators in the exhibition hall were predominantly as sporting as the contestants.

Only towards the finish, and especially on the two match points, did Sampras become irritated by one or two shouts of bias. When, during the exciting first set, a few spectators had cheered a first service fault, the bulk of the audience had whistled disapprovingly.

It soon became evident that this match was to be something special. The second, third and fourth games ran to a total of eight deuces and 34 points, including three break points, four of them Sampras's, and none of them secured.

The first conspicuous unforced error did not arrive until the 28th point of the match, as Becker tenaciously, and successfully, fought to hold his serve for 2-2. With an open court at 40-0, he put a forehand volley at the net just beyond the baseline.

## FOR THE RECORD

## BADMINTON

GLASGOW: Scottish Open: Men: P. G. G. Chappell (Eng) vs B. Hogg (Wales) 15-7, 15-11; Women: G. Hogg (Wales) vs B. Hogg (Wales) 15-7, 15-11; Junior: G. Hogg (Wales) vs B. Hogg (Wales) 15-7, 15-11; Mixed: G. Hogg (Wales) vs B. Hogg (Wales) 15-7, 15-11.

## BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Men: Boston Celtics vs New York Knicks 102-98; Washington Wizards vs Seattle SuperSonics 115-102; Chicago Bulls vs New York Knicks 102-98; Los Angeles Lakers vs Utah Jazz 113-109.

## BOXING

WEMBLEY: British lightweight championship (12 mos): Michael Agnew (Reading) vs Colin Durran (Huddersfield) 10-0; Heavyweight: Michael Agnew (Reading) vs Colin Durran (Huddersfield) 10-0.

## FOOTBALL

Wednesday's foot results: EUROPEAN CUP CHAMPIONS' LEAGUE: Group A: Ajax 2-0; Group B: Real Madrid 2-0; Group C: Barcelona 2-0; Group D: Bayern Munich 2-0.

## GOLF

SYDNEY: Australian Open: Leading: East-West Golf Club; 2nd: West Golf Club; 3rd: East-West Golf Club; 4th: West Golf Club; 5th: East-West Golf Club; 6th: West Golf Club; 7th: East-West Golf Club; 8th: West Golf Club; 9th: East-West Golf Club; 10th: West Golf Club.

## HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Hartford 3 Montreal 1; Florida 4 Los Angeles 1; Colorado 3 Phoenix 2; Dallas 3 Calgary 1; Anaheim 2 NY Islanders 2 (OT).

## RUGBY UNION

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN SERIES: North Counties 18 Queensland 27 (at Huddersfield); Western Counties 20 South Africa 10 (at Cardiff).

## SNOOKER

PRESTON: United Kingdom championship: Second round: England: K. Hogg (Wales) vs D. Taylor (Holl) 9-7; Scotland: K. Hogg (Wales) vs D. Taylor (Holl) 9-7; Wales: K. Hogg (Wales) vs D. Taylor (Holl) 9-7.

## NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL: CONFERENCE CLUB APPOINTS NEW MANAGER

## Kettering pick Berry to win back supporters

BY WALTER GAMMIE

KETTERING Town, having been turned down by Graham Roberts, have appointed Steve Berry as player-manager. Berry, 33, had been in temporary charge since the club dismissed Gary Johnson last month after Kettering had drawn only 720 people to a Vauxhall Conference match against Hednesford Town on

the heels of FA Cup defeat at home to Bedford United. "That was a disaster," Peter Malling, the Kettering chairman, said. "You couldn't sustain this club on that support. The fans voted with their feet."

Malling accepted Roberts' decision to stay with Yeovil Town. "Obviously, being top of the [Ic]is league, they were keen to keep him," he said. "I would have been

the same," Berry, he feels, has similar qualities to Roberts. "Steve's got all the credentials you'd want in a player-manager," he said. "He's got experience playing in the Football League with Sunderland, Swindon, Portsmouth and Northampton. He was captain of Stevenage when they won the championship last season, so he's also got a good understanding of the Conference and the feeder leagues."

Berry has given up a job with an employment agency in Northampton to take up the full-time appointment. Jake King will tomorrow take Telford United to Dover Athletic for his first match since being made manager in succession to Wayne Clarke, who resigned from the job at Bucks Head after 18 months. King had been assistant manager at Newtown, the Gilbert League of Wales club.

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# All I want for Christmas is my Ruud Gullit windscreen scraper

LYNNE TRUSS



Kicking and Screaming

The star system in football used to mean nothing to me. Rewinding the tape to the start of Euro 96, I seem to remember I would sit in my seat at Wembley and think the England team were all jumped-up nobodies. "So who does Teddy Sheringham play for usually, when he isn't doing this?" I would half-heartedly ask my long-suffering friend, Robert. "Tottenham," he would reply. And I'd nod and sigh and make a mental note, but think secretly: "Well, you could be making that up, couldn't you? Nobody would care."

But it turns out that the individual fame of footballers is significant. These men are big stars, and there are hundreds of them piled up in a great starchy pyramid. And the astonishing thing is, they really deserve their personal recognition. If I met David Beckham, I would feel compelled to shake him by the hand. If I met David Ginola, I'd faint.

Having begun this strange career thinking football was all about abstract things such as league position and club loyalty, I now fully understand the bizarre demand for Ryan Giggs bedlinen. Though I have still not seen Newcastle United in the flesh, when the great day finally arrives, I'll be yelling: "Look, look! It's good old Peter Beardsley!" Just as I might applaud Leo McKern or Dora Bryan making an entrance on the stage.

All this starchy stuff is intended to explain why so little of Blackburn Rovers' game at Ewood Park last Saturday made an impression on me. Chelsea were the visitors, and it was a good and interesting match, but, quite honestly, when superstar-hero Ruud Gullit is coaching from the touchline just a few yards in front of you, in a slim black tracksuit of transcendent elegance, it's rather difficult to take in anything else. Ruud! Ruud! Is it really you? You look just like you do on telly!

Others weren't so excitable, of course. "Sit down!" angry Blackburn supporters yelled, gesticulating in case he couldn't hear. Ruud chose to ignore their complaints and remained standing, which pleased me a lot, because when he was sitting



Stocking filler: "When Gullit is coaching from the touchline, just a few yards in front of you, it is rather difficult to take in anything else"

## 'He limbered up beautifully and finally took the field. It was all too much'

down I had to swivel 90 degrees in my seat to keep him in view, and could no longer pretend to be watching the match at all. "Sit down, ya great softy!" the fans persisted. Softy? Now I know why crowd scuffles break out, if ignorant views of that calibre are allowed free expression.

It was probably just as well to be hedged around by Blackburn supporters: it kept the lid on my protective instincts. When Chelsea's Italians were greeted with boos and "Get back to Spain!" I was obliged to chew the lip; and when Chelsea equalised at the end of the second half, I yelled a very short "Ye...!" (without the "s") and performed that bum-stuck-to-chewing-gum movement where you begin to stand up but then think better of it. The irony was, I don't support Chelsea. In fact, I don't support anybody. But I had inadvertently bought a seat in the middle of a season-ticket enclave, where even keen neutrality was a bad idea.

"You've got to admit it's getting good now!" I said. "It's one-all! Cheer up!"

The home fans had every reason to feel robbed by the draw, actually. In

the first half, Blackburn played like a whirlwind — but a whirlwind which repeatedly swept the ball up to the goalmouth, and then failed to tip it anywhere near the net. "Oooh!" the fans wailed (a lot), and put hands to heads.

"If we still had Shearer, we'd be three-up by now," a grizzled Glaswegian nearby moaned, and it was one of the saddest and most unanswerable complaints I've ever heard. Being a post-Shearer Blackburn supporter must make you feel all helpless and bereft — like being Lois Lane in the next room, just to rub it in, the energetic Chelsea fans chanted "Shearer, Shearer!" — which was damned subtle of them.

"Well it's true, you've had lots of chances," I sympathised with the grizzled Scot. "You're playing much

better than Chelsea. Look, your goalie is freezing to death down there." But my nice moment of contact with the season-ticket man was soon dispelled, and it was all my fault. "Who's your striker now, then?" I asked, gently. "Sutton," he said. "Oh, right, of course. Sutton," I said, flipping the pages of my programme, unable to disguise the fact I'd never heard of him. "And is Sutton playing today? What does he look like?"

Meanwhile, the Chelsea side swarmed with very Italians. Ruud limbered up beautifully and finally took the field, and it was all too much. In the interests of good entertainment, I wanted Chelsea to make a good show, and while their spectacular dives were derided by the Blackburn fans, I saw the assorted leaps and skids as just proof of boundless Latin athleticism and continental

flair. Besides which, the ground was wet.

The new man, Zola, who is small and nippy, once actually somersaulted on contact. If I'm not mistaken, but those who booed him should consider that he was only obeying the laws of physics: when the players banged into one another, Zola must have been going at twice the speed of the other bloke.

Vialli was a Trojan, Gullit an inspiration, and it seemed silly for the home fans not to enjoy them. What I didn't like to say to the season-ticket brigade was this: if Blackburn sold Shearer for £15 million, why don't they buy some stars of their own? Where's the money gone?

But I had stars on the brain on Saturday, having been the same distance from Ruud Gullit as I am now from that light switch, or that doorknob (the top of the stairs is too far). If the Chelsea club shop stocks Ruud Gullit shower mitts, or Ruud Gullit fridge fresheners, or Ruud Gullit windscreens scrapers, I shall be putting them on my Christmas list at once.

## The meringue addiction

In the Grip of the Glossies. Radio 4 (FM), 10.00am.

"The whole world is washed with pink when a girl gets engaged." That's the kind of textual meringue the Scots poet Liz Lochhead gulped down out of women's magazines — "a source of mystery, metaphor, colour and poetry" — when she was a teenager. She would mourn for the death of romantic magic when told that vanishing cream was just another name for colourless foundation. As for those tips the glossies offered on "how to get your man — and keep him", it was all June and moon stuff. Set meant gender, not intercourse. Lochhead is older and wiser now. Now, aimed at the liberated woman, pointed to the future when it gleefully announced: "Another jolly Christmas issue: adultery, rape, eroticism, extortion!"

Preoccupations. Radio 3, 2.00pm.

It's serious when one of our leading sopranos has to quit a theatre because, on stage, someone is wrestling with a 15ft make-believe python. But that's Susan Bullock for you. Or rather, that's her pythia. She has a horror of snakes. The prop snake was being used in *The Magic Flute*. But running out on Mozart was nothing compared with what happened on a train. She made a fellow passenger empty his duffel bag because she was sure it held a snake. There was nothing more reptilian in it than T-shirt and shorts. *Preoccupations* ends with some snake music by Michael Berkeley and Respighi. Bullock had left the studio by this time. Peter Daville

## RADIO 1

7.00am Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo. Includes Golden Hour 12.00 Lisa O'Connell. Includes at 12.30pm-12.45 Newsbeat and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier. Includes at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat and at 6.30 The Continuous Dance Mix 7.00 Essential Selection, with Pete Tong 10.00 One in the Jungle 12.00 Radio 1 Rap Show, with Tim Westwood 3.00am Annie Nightingale 5.00 Claire Sturgess

## RADIO 2

6.00am Martin Valner 7.30 Wake up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thompson 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Helen Sharman with Charles Nova 7.00 Today's the Day 7.30 Friday Night Music with Rolf Harris. Includes the BBC Concert Orchestra, under Barry Wordsworth 8.45 Jamaica Inn (A10) 9.00 A Life on the Ocean Wave (A10) 10.00 Sheridan Morley 12.05am Charles Nova

## RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl Children in Need 12.00 Sunday with Mark and Chelsea in Need 2.05pm Fussco on Five 4.00 Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra, with David McNeil, and Sports Bulletin 7.30 Peter Jones on Sport 8.30 Friday Sport. Sheffield United v Bolton Wanderers 10.05 Paper Talk, with Jay Rayner and Brian Alexander 11.00 Hugh Downs, with David McNeil 12.05am After Hours 2.05 AM at Night 1.00am Ian Collins

## TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Anna Ross 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Elaine, with Peter Dinkley 7.00 Mike Day's Sportszone 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00am Ian Collins

## WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT News on the hour. 5.30am Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Green History of the Planet 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Music Review 8.55 Global Gardening 9.05 World News Report 9.15 Focus on Faith 9.45 Sport 10.30 BBC English 10.45 Off the Shelf 11.30 Mexican Books 12.05pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Science in Action 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Matchtrack 3.05 Sport 3.15 Global Gardening 3.30 Music Review 4.15 World Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sport 6.00 Focus on Faith 7.01 Outlook 7.30 News of Faith 7.30 Matchtrack 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.25 People and Politics 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.10 Spotlight 11.15 Insider's Guide 11.25 Book Choice 11.30 Matchtrack 12.30am Seven Days 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words of Faith 2.30 Science in Action 3.15 Sport 3.30 Meridian Live 4.30 Jazz Now and Then 4.45 Seven Days

## CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Mike Read 8.00 Harry Kelly 12.00 Susanah Simons 2.00pm Concerto Mozart (Pile and Harp Concerto in C major, K. 229) 3.00 James Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 Classic Showcase 8.00 Evening Concerto Mozart (Pile and Harp Concerto in C major, K. 229) 9.00 The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra, Op 34: A Simple Symphony: Handel (Ode for St Cecilia's Day) 10.00 John Neschke 11.00 Friday Live 1.00am Sally Peterson

## VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jon's Breakfast Experience 8.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Phil Coyne (FM) / Robin Barrie (AM) 10.00 Alan Freeman 12.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Howard Pearce

## RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Scharwenka (Piano Concerto No 4 in F minor); Pizzoli (Concerto para quinteto); 9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hootney. 10.00 Musical Encounters, with Nick Morgan. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Bartok and Kodaly; includes Bartok (Finding a Husband, Hungarian Folk Songs, 1930) 1.00pm News, BBC Radio 3. Includes Concerto: Haydn Plus. From St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, introduced by Chris de Souza. 2.15 Preoccupations. See Choice 2.00 Music Restored (r) 3.00 Mining the Archive. To celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Britten, on St Cecilia's Day, musicians who worked with him discuss his legacy. 5.00 The Music Machine. Students from Feltham's Longford Community School perform at the Beach at Harrow Arts Centre, London. 5.15 In Tune, with Jeremy Nicholas, including Johann Strauss (L'Entenpater) 6.30 A competition to raise money

for the Children in Need appeal: identify the narrators of Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf in recordings made over 50 years; 7.00 CD-ROMs for music lovers. 7.30 Barlow/Duffy/Cher. Oliver Chatter, violin, Heston Chatter, conductor; Chatter/Duffy/Cher (Violin Concerto); Duffy/Cher (Violin Concerto); L'Abbe des Bergues; Barlow/Duffy/Cher (Piano Concerto). 9.10 Outdoors. Chris Cutler, noise-maker, discusses aspects of his work. 9.25 Schostakovich's Bech. (r) 10.00 Hear and Now. Performances at last month's Oxford Festival. Contemporary Music includes the Norwegian BIL 20 Ensemble performing Rolf Liebermann. 12.00 Composers of the Week: Cherubini and Spontini (r) 1.00am Through the Night, with David Mead, includes 1.00 Monteverdi, Penderecki, Vivaldi, J.C. Bach, Mozart, Stravinsky 4.45 Brahms 6.00 Sequences

## RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping (LW) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Plays for the Day 6.30 Today's Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Discs: Tessa Sanderson (r) 9.45 Foodbeat. In the Grip of the Glossies (FM). See Choice 10.00 An Act of Worship (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's Hour with 11.30 The Natural History Programme 12.00 News: You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker 12.25pm The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke 1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast (40) (r) 2.00 News; Classic Serial: Women in Love, by D.H. Lawrence, Dramatised by Elaine Feinstein (40) (r) 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Doreen Brough and guests 4.00 News; 4.05 Kaleidoscope, with Tim Marlowe and a David Hockney exhibition 4.45 Short Story: A Sort of Love Story, by Tom MacDonagh. A young man becomes hopelessly infatuated by a cool older woman 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 1.00 As World Service

6.30 Going Places. Presented by David Stafford 7.20 Plays of the Week, with Chris Serle 8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical discussion. With Lynne MP; newspaper editor Will Hutton; Ken Livingstone, MP; and Graham Mather, MEP 8.50 Law in Action, with Marcel Berlins 9.15 Letter from America, by Robert Lipp 9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: Street Scene. Up and down the country, British cities are investing in new concert halls and theatres. But what are the motives behind this urban cultural expansion and what effect, if any, do they have on city life? (r) 9.55 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Robert Lipp 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Lady Chatterley's Confessions, by Elaine Feinstein. Read by Anthony Hopkins 11.00 Week Ending. The topical comedy sketch show 11.25 Fourth Column. A quiz-like look at the week's events 11.45 African Harvest 12.00 News incl 12.27am Weather 12.30 The Late Book: The Shipping News, by E. Annie Proulx (10/10)

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 90.2-92.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8. LW 97.8-100.8. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 900, WORLD SERVICE. MW 645: LW 105.8, MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM radio listings compiled by Peter Dinkley, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McManamy

## HOCKEY

## Blanks comes out fighting

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

DESPITE his team's failure to win a match this season and their position at the bottom of the women's national league premier division, Kevin Blanks, the Leicester manager, will not hear talk of gloom and doom at the club.

"I can categorically state that there is no crisis," he said. "Of course, we are not happy at the way things have worked out this season and I have my

own views as to what has gone wrong, but we're doing all we can to rectify the situation."

Fighting talk. Nonetheless, it is an alarming slide for the club that has finished runners-up three times, and qualified for Europe after winning the title in 1994.

Blanks is adamant that the team has performed well against the top sides but has been guilty of leaking goals. It

is a fault that could well be attributed to the loss of two experienced international defenders this year. John Johnson and Lucy Cope.

Johnson, one of the few outstanding players in Britain's Olympic campaign, is taking a break and has yet to decide her future, while Cope has signed for the four-times former champions, Slough, after moving to London to continue her academic career.

Relegation, Blanks insists, is unthinkable. "We have a superb forward line and once we can give them a consistent supply, I know they will convert the chances."

They will have to start against Doncaster tomorrow. The Yorkshire club has already hammered the title-holders, Highdown, 8-2, and has earned a reputation as a tough, robust team.

Victory at Doncaster could prove to be the turning point for the luckless Midlandsers. After that, they have one more fixture before the extended break to begin to turn around their fortunes.

Blanks added: "There's a big time gap between December and the end of February, and although we have the quality players to turn it around, I keep saying that you don't win matches on paper. You win them on the pitch."

## BOXING

## Ayers waits on Duff's record offer

MICHAEL AYERS, the British lightweight champion, is awaiting confirmation from Mickey Duff, the London promoter, about his offer of £100,000 to meet Billy Scherer, of Luton (Srikumar Sen writes).

Duff had made the record offer to the winner of the bout between Ayers and Colin Dunne, in which Ayers, of Tooting, retained his title in style by stopping Dunne in the ninth round at Wembley Conference Centre on Wednesday night. On the same bill, Scherer, who is managed by Duff, made hard work of stopping the journeyman boxer, Jean Moulin, of France.

The champion who is due to challenge Artur Grigorian, of Russia, for the World Boxing Organisation title in the new year, said he was ready to meet Scherer as soon as Duff puts the money on the table.

"I'll fight Scherer any time if Mickey Duff pays the £100,000 he was offering. We are the best two lightweights in the country and the fans have been waiting for two years to see us fight. I think we should get it on. The sooner I can get rid of Scherer, the sooner I'll get the respect I deserve."

## SQUASH

## Plucky Walker misses final by a whisker

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN KARACHI

CHRIS WALKER failed by a single point against Rodney Eyles, the second-seeded Australian, to become the third successive Englishman to reach a World Open final against Jansher Khan here yesterday.

Walker, 29, from Colchester, had been two games down and 5-0 down in the third before the Australian allowed him a toe-hold that, in a brilliant fightback, Walker built into a 14-12 match-ball opportunity.

The Englishman, recently promoted to No 4 in the world, wears the logo of Dolphin Square, in London, where he lives and trains, on the front of his shirt. On the back is the e-mail address of the magazine of which he is sports fitness correspondent. "I won't take much joy in telling them this story," he said.

Joy was what he brought, though, to Karachi's squash enthusiasts, through his 73-minute 15-12, 15-7, 14-15, 4-15, 15-14 effort after they had watched, approvingly yet not fully satisfied, as Jansher, the defending champion, dismissed Peter Nicol, of Scotland, 15-9, 15-9, 15-3 in the other semi-final.

Nicol was almost as fed-up as Walker. "These referees

give Jansher so much leeway," he complained. "The rest of us chase our legs off getting to the ball. He just asks for a let, gets it every time, and does half the work. There was a point at 8-8 in our third game where he was definitely tired and I might have broken through, but the ref gave him a whole series of easy lets and a penalty stroke to recover on."

Walker needed no such coddling. Nor, to his credit, did Eyles, despite having to escape from a similarly tough situation against Zubair Jahan in the quarter-finals. "So long as I can do it in the final as well, I won't care," the Australian said.

He had looked a certain winner as he strode to 5-0 in the third game of the semi-final. "Then I committed the cardinal sin. I started thinking about the final. By the time I got my concentration back, Chris was up and flying."

Walker forced the third game to a single-point tie-break and won it when Eyles snatched a backhand into the tin. He won the fourth in just five hands and recovered from 1-5 and 4-8 in the fifth to lead 14-12. But, in the long run, it was the calm concentration of the Australian that again got him out of trouble.

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 45

## WALLAROO

(a) A large species of kangaroo, *Macropus robustus*. In Queensland and New South Wales applied chiefly to the black variety. From the native Australian word, "the wallaroo, of a blackish colour, with coarse shaggy fur, inhabiting the hills."

## WHEWER

(b) The female wigeon, *Marca penelope*, apparently from the Scottish echoic verb *whew* to whistle. "I have put up in a box a wigeon and a whewer."

## WAMBLE

(a) A rolling or uneasiness in the stomach, a feeling of nausea. Probably two or more words have coalesced. Eg the Latin *vomer* Greek *emlein* to vomit, Old English *waim* to boil, and Old High German *wimidon* to move or stagger. "Our meat going down into the stomachic merity, and with pleasure, dissolveth incontinently all wambles."

## VALI

(c) A civil governor of a Turkish province or vilayet. From the Arabic *vall*. The form *vall* occurs in the translation of Chardin's *The Coronation of Solomon*, 1686. *The Times*, 1903: "The corrupt and inefficient government of the Vali of Beirut."

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# A woman's place is on the pitch, official

Harlequins rugby football club is 130 years old — so it should come as no surprise that the gentlemen of the club have pretty much perfected the sidekick by now. But still, watching them execute their clever little shimmies last night, so neatly and with such perfect timing, was a joy to behold.

Each time the makers of *Women with Balls* (Channel 4) charged, the brave Twickers chaps stood their ground... only to step elegantly out of the way at the last moment. I don't think they should be at rugby matches, but on the evidence of this perhaps they should.

Watching a documentary maker miss the intended target is rarely going to be as enjoyable as it was watching Alison Millar, the director, miss hers. Hard as she tried, as she chartered the progress of Harlequins Ladies in their inaugural season, the men of Harlequins

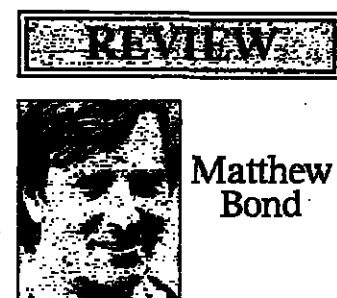
stood firm. They had done their homework, they stuck to the game plan, they all remembered what happened when a Channel 4 documentary team turned up at Northwood golf club a couple of years ago. Once again, the game of *chichester le chavivist* was underway.

"So," said the quiet little female voice behind the camera, "what do you think of the women's game?" The big burly man with a big burly pint of beer in his hand gave it a couple of seconds' thought: "Fantastic." Drat. The quiet little female voice — so sweet, so innocent, so certain that sooner or later one of these lunks would play into her hands, moved on. "So, how do you think they are playing?" Dick Best, a former England coach and a very important person at Harlequins, lunched his shoulders against the Sunday morning wind: "Outstanding." He had a point — Kirstie and the gang were in the

process of putting 136 points past opposition so bad they weren't named.

And so it went on. "What do you think of Camilla playing rugby?" "Absolutely fantastic," said her proud father. "Do you think there'll ever be a female president of Harlequins?" David Brook, pausing to shrug, you know the form by now, "I think that may be putting it a little too far... yes, yes... but maybe, one day." Drat double, double, double drat.

Only a passing lunatic on Waterloo station served up what Bill McLaren would call the needful. Sam and the omnipresent Camilla (Vice-Captain, Player of the Year and runner-up in the Boobs of the Year award only because of the outside assistance of a Wonderbra apparently) were handing out leaflets to publicise Ladies Day. "You should be back in the kitchens and leave



Matthew Bond

playing rugby to men," the commuter yelled, breaking off from his pursuit of the 6.32pm to Woking just long enough to hurl a helpful shout of "perverts" behind him. Call me old-fashioned but I don't think lunatics on Waterloo station count. Sorry.

Elsewhere, the battle between British and American sitcoms finally came up with an unexpected result. We won! What made the

victory doubly surprising was not only that the winner was *2Point4 Children* (BBC1) but that it was delivered — inexplicably — with the help of a Halloween special. Just the three weeks late then. On that basis I take it we can look forward to the Christmas special some time in early February.

So ill-prepared was I for a return to ghosts, ghouls and things that go bump in the night, that it took me almost as long as the cast to realise that Mrs Cruella next door was actually an anagram of... well, I'm sure you've worked it out already.

It was all very silly but, cheerfully for a series that occasionally looks tired, quite funny as well. Ben (Gary Olsen) had put on some Lon Chaney make-up to frighten off trick or treaters. "Guess where I got it from?" "Princess Diana on *Panorama*!" tried Bill (Belinda Lang). I love it when she gets vicious.

On the losing end of last night's transatlantic skirmish was *Third Rock from the Sun* (BBC2), a series I fear I may have been a shade too nice about when it started out a few weeks ago. Last night's episode, in which the high commander of our visiting band of aliens took up smoking, was virtually a laugh-free zone. It would have been entirely had it not been for the presence of John Lithgow as Dick, the head alien honcho. The jokes may be old but Lithgow delivers them beautifully. "Dick, smoking takes ten years off your life," protested a colleague. "Yeah, but only off the end of your life... and they're crappy years anyway." I confess, I smiled at that one.

Quite how a television series goes from the acrobatic preening of Richard E. Grant one week to the death of Veronica Guerin, the Irish investi-

gative journalist, the next, defeats me. But *The Works* (BBC2) managed it — and to quite an unexpected end for those of us on this side of the Irish Sea.

For while David Kerr's film contained little in the way of new facts (and certainly not enough to satisfy a journalist of Guerin's reputation), he quickly moved the focus away from who murdered her to the equally disturbing question of who allowed her to be murdered. Taking his lead from Guerin's brother, whose *The Irish Times* first prompted this line of inquiry, Kerr gently considered the initially unthinkable — that it was partially her own fault — and the scarcely more palatable alternative — that her newspaper, *The Sunday Independent*, had not done enough to protect an inexperienced and possibly naive journalist from her own crusading passions. All round a very sobering half-hour.

**BBC1**

6.00am BUSINESS BREAKFAST (25938)  
7.00am BBC BREAKFAST NEWS (Ceeleat) (30071)  
9.00am BREAKFAST NEWS EXTRA (Ceeleat) (30071)  
9.20am STYLE CHALLENGE (s) (1174342)  
9.45am KILROY Topical discussion series chaired by Robert Kilroy Silk (s) (8706716)  
10.30am CANT COOK, WONT COOK (s) (35238)  
11.00am NEWS (Ceeleat) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (259622)  
11.05am THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW Consumer magazine (s) (4117648)  
11.45am SMILLIE'S PEOPLE Chat show hosted by Carol Smillie (s) (8854700)  
12.00am NEWS (Ceeleat) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (480622)  
12.05pm ALIAS SMITH AND JONES Heyes and Curry are out for revenge when they are charged (s) (2590174)  
12.25pm THE WEATHER SHOW The team of weather presenters forecast in aid of Children in Need (5181782)  
1.00pm NEWS (Ceeleat) and weather (13359)  
1.30pm REGIONAL NEWS (14119358)  
1.40pm NEIGHBOURS (Ceeleat) (s) (24020358)  
2.00pm CALL MY BLUFF With The Times columnist Alan Coren and Sandi Toksvig (s) (7261)  
2.30pm PETER SEABROOK'S GARDENING WEEK (s) (826)  
3.00pm INCOGNITO (s) (339)  
3.30pm THE ANIMALS OF FAIRING WOOD (5577338) 3.55pm NEWS (3467629) 4.10pm The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest (5517008) 4.35pm Grange Hill (1758803) 5.00pm Newsworld (Ceeleat) (8130613) 5.10pm Blue Peter (Ceeleat) (2252819)  
5.35pm NEIGHBOURS (s) (703484)  
6.00pm NEWS (Ceeleat) and weather (735)  
6.30pm REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (77)  
7.00pm CHILDREN IN NEED Terry Wogan and Gaby Roslin present the annual fundraising extravaganza (Ceeleat) (s) (3077)  
7.30pm REGIONAL NEWS (Ceeleat) IN NEED PROGRAMMES (552357)  
7.40pm CHILDREN IN NEED Esther Rantzen showcases five of Britain's most talented children and Mark Owen gives a special performance of his first solo single, *Child* (Ceeleat) (78687)  
9.00pm NEWS (Ceeleat) REGIONAL NEWS and weather (480622)  
9.30pm CHILDREN IN NEED The fundraising continues as Barry Manilow files in for a special appearance. Also comedy mayhem from the cast of *The Brittas Empire* (Ceeleat) (2270551)  
11.35pm REGIONAL NEWS (Ceeleat) IN NEED PROGRAMMES (552357)  
12.00pm CHILDREN IN NEED Terry Wogan and Gaby Roslin invite you to join their latest night entertainment as the fundraising continues. Featuring Darren Day and the cast of *Summer Holiday*, Charles Aznavour, the cast of the musical *Smile*, Joe's Café and special editions of *The Mrs Merton Show* and *The Best of Auntie's Bloomers* (3395)  
2.00am Weather (788414)

**BBC2**

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: Information Technology and Society (550832) 6.50am The Third Revolution (593384) 7.15pm News Breakfast News (8130714) 7.30pm Perils of Penelope Pitstop (4806551) 7.55pm Smart (734445) 8.20pm The GreasySausage Gang (871261) 8.25pm Spider (558071) 8.35pm The Record (5647464) 8.50pm The French Experience (6054225) 9.15pm The Economics Collection (880687) 9.45pm Watch (403588) 10.00pm Playdays (88551) 10.20pm What? Where? Why? (3677009) 10.45pm Revista (365251) 11.00pm Look and Read (5028700) 11.20pm Short Circuit (7881484) 11.40pm English Time: The Ancient Mariner (8940551) 12.00pm English File (21938) 12.30pm Working Lunch (55209) 1.00pm Scene (81700) 1.30pm Headline South (41290) 2.00pm The GreasySausage Gang (4643948) 2.05pm Spider (4643919) 2.10pm SPORT ON FRIDAY Helen Rollison introduces racing from Ascot including the 2.40, 3.10 and 3.40 races; Cheetah; Rommie; and previews England's forthcoming test series in Zimbabwe and New Zealand; Rugby Union: A preview of the weekend's international rugby union matches featuring England v Italy and Ireland v Australia (746657)  
3.55pm NEWS (Ceeleat) (568735)  
4.00pm TODAY'S THE DAY (700) 4.30pm Ready, Steady, Cook! (964) 5.00pm Easters (9453) 5.30pm Going, Going, Gone (464)  
6.00pm SLIDERS (s) (891483)  
6.40pm ELECTRIC CIRCUITS (s) (388613)  
7.00pm TOP OF THE POPS (Ceeleat) (s) (5919)  
7.30pm TOP GEAR RALLY REPORT A preview of the RAC Rally (s) (613)  
8.00pm GLUCK, GLUCK, GLUCK The first of a new wine series with Malcolm Gluck (Ceeleat) (5687)  
8.30pm STEFAN BUZZACK'S GARDENING BRITAIN Alpine plants, cacti and the gardens of Crathes Castle (Ceeleat) (s) (4174)  
9.00pm SHOOTING STARS Spout quiz with guests Ardal O'Hanion, Annette Rice, Dave Lee Travis and Carol Vorderman (Ceeleat) (s) (2954)  
9.30pm RED DWARF Vt Legion Sci-Fi comedy with Craig Charles and Chris Barrie (s) (39445)  
10.00pm HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU Satirical news quiz with Angus Deayton, Paul Merton and Ian Hislop joined by Eve Pollard and Jack Docherty (s) (22657)  
10.30pm NEWSNIGHT (Ceeleat) (873193)  
11.15pm THE A FORCE (s) (355261)  
11.55pm FILM: JOBBAN (1980) with Kevin Smith, Tatum Menjies and Lynn Gaines. A deaf and dumb man returns from the city to his wife and baby in the country, where he sets off a chain of violence and is forced to go on the run. Directed by Darrell Rood (188089) Ends 2.55

**CHOICE**

Children in Need  
BBC1, 7.00pm  
The annual charity appeal is always worth dipping into, mainly for catching celebrities in unfamiliar mode. Such as four ex-Asinleys, Harriet, Brian Turner, Gary Rhodes and Antony Worrall Thompson, who are putting on glitter suits and turning themselves into a singing combo called *The Four Chefs*. Slightly less startling is an old time music-hall performed by stars of *EastEnders*, with Barbara Windsor admirably cast as Marie Lloyd. For those still unconvinced by the singing talents of Robinson and Jerome, Barry Manilow is flying in from across the Atlantic and Charles Aznavour is hopping over from France. Terry Wogan is joined by Gaby Roslin for seven hours of live transmissions and the target to beat, as the man says on *Mastermind*, is last year's £16.5 million.

Gluck, Gluck, Gluck  
BBC2, 8.00pm  
Television wine experts tend to divide between the exhibitionist (Jilly Gooden, Oz Clarke) and the quietly sensible (Janis Robinson). Now meet Malcolm Gluck, whose bluff manner and casual appearance place him somewhere in between. His series is pitched at the ordinary wine drinker who may be baffled by the jargon and overwhelmed by the choice. First step is a balli restaurant in Birmingham where Gluck declares his abhorrence of drinking lager with Indian food and suggests wine alternatives. He also compares two French wines from the same region, one costing £3 and the other twice as much, and assesses which provides the better value. Gluck offers himself as a demystifier and his chummy, down-to-earth approach should appeal to anybody who feels ignorant about wine and is reluctant to admit it.

Lonely Planet  
Channel 4, 8.00pm  
"I'm not saying it's disgusting," says Ian Wright tactfully, as he rucks into a lump of Icelandic shark. "I'm just not used to it." He is no more used to the local potato wine, known as the Black Death, but there is more funny footage to be had from his attempt to drink it. Our try-anything host extracts further fun from covering himself in mud in the cause of a healthier body. A geyser and a glacier offer more orthodox travelogue material. Having exhausted the innocent abroad routine in Iceland, Wright is off to do the same in Greenland, first reminding us that it is the most northerly island in what he calls the "world." For that matter Nuk is the smallest capital in the "world." The cameraman does his best to upstage Wright's chirpy chatter as he lingers impressively over majestic snowscapes.

Stefan Buzzack's Gardening Britain  
BBC2, 8.30pm  
It may be November in the real world but we pick up the Buzzack roadshow as spring snows into summer. Our dapper host is in Aberdeen, setting up his plant surgery in Dundee Park. Europe's largest covered garden. A useful feature of the series is its willingness to tackle the curses of gardening, as well as the delights. Last week's symposium on weeds must have struck many a chortle, as the solutions were sometimes less than magic. On the agenda tonight is invasive sorrel. Heading the gardenists is a tour of Crathes Castle, but their present character derives from a redesign in the 1930s by a devotee of Gertrude Jekyll. We also encounter a silverfish who has created an "anarchistic" garden on the site of a disused railway station. Peter Waymark

**HITV**

6.00am GMTV (1643208)  
9.25pm SUPERMARKET SWEEP (1255261)  
9.55pm REGIONAL NEWS (2071358)  
10.00pm THE TIME... THE PLACE (92377)  
10.30pm THIS MORNING (24073464)  
12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (4776613)  
12.30pm NEWS and weather (Teletext) (4915483)  
12.55pm MURDER, SHE WROTE (s) (2198236)  
2.00pm Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (5737584) 2.25pm Cross Wits (Teletext) (s) (5707919) 2.50pm Yan Can Cook — the Best of China (8878209)  
3.20pm NEWS (Teletext) (4973377)  
3.25pm REGIONAL NEWS (4972648)  
3.30pm JAYS WORLD (3482938) 3.40pm The Adventures of Dawdle (3482174) 3.55pm Oscar and Friends (5673261) 4.00pm Snug and Cozi (8060483) 4.15pm Hurricanes (5501445) 4.40pm Fun House (4952484)  
5.10pm A COUNTRY PRACTICE (7250193)  
5.40pm NEWS and weather (Teletext) (s) (225087)  
6.00pm HOME AND AWAY (s) (Teletext) (s) (705208)  
6.25pm HITV NEWS (Teletext) (356822)  
7.00pm CATCHPHRASE Hosted by Roy Walker (Teletext) (s) (3445)  
7.30pm CORONATION STREET Prime comes before a ball for Jack and Kim. Dream comes a step closer (Teletext) (567)  
8.00pm THE BILL Loxton comes under scrutiny from the Complaints Investigation Bureau when he is accused of assaulting a suspected burglar. Can he keep his cool? (Teletext) (2193)  
8.30pm FAITH IN THE FUTURE: The Big Test Intimations of mortality after a smear test turn Faith into an emotional time-bomb (Teletext) (s) (8700)



Jerry Bolt, Sean Blowers (9.00pm)

9.00pm STAYING ALIVE The grim reaper is stalking the unit — but at least Mick is sharp enough to keep one step ahead (Teletext) (s) (5539)  
10.00pm NEWS and weather (Teletext) (19193)  
10.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (Teletext) (430025)  
10.40pm FRANK TONCO'S BATH NIGHT Country and western singer Frank Tonco explores the city of Bath (s) (2818445)  
11.45pm THE 1996 MOBO AWARDS The 1996 Music of Black Origin Awards (549087)  
1.00am FUNNY BUSINESS (s) (4041033)  
1.35pm THE GOOD SEX GUIDE... LATE (4050781)  
2.35pm BUSHELL ON THE BOX (s) (s) (780925)  
3.05pm WAR AND REMEMBRANCE (s) (713850)  
4.50pm SOUND BITES (60327014)  
5.00pm INTERNATIONAL TOURING CARS from the Nurburgring, Germany (48897)  
5.30pm ITN MORNING NEWS (83014)

**CENTRAL**

As HITV West except:  
12.55pm HOME AND AWAY (4990174)  
1.25pm CROSS WITS (38556174)  
1.55pm A COUNTRY PRACTICE (24027261)  
5.10-5.40pm SHORTLAND STREET (7250193)  
6.25-7.00pm CENTRAL NEWS (958622)  
10.40pm CENTRAL WEEKEND (1152629)  
12.10am FIRST CUT (4785439)  
12.25pm FIRST CUT (4773694)  
12.40pm COMEDY CENTRAL (1764743)  
1.40pm THE GOOD SEX GUIDE... LATE (7175472)  
2.45pm CYBER.CAFE (1144887)  
3.10pm HELTER SKELTER (7760472)  
4.00pm JOBBAN (2479743)

**WESTCOUNTRY**

As HITV West except:  
12.55pm CORONATION STREET (4990174)  
1.25-1.55pm CROSSWITS (38556174)  
1.55pm HOME AND AWAY (29700735)  
2.25pm HIGH ROAD (57978071)  
2.55-3.30pm GARDENERS' DIARY (1216025)  
5.10-5.40pm HOME AND AWAY (7250193)  
6.00-7.00pm WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (54754)  
10.30pm WESTCOUNTRY NEWS (421377)  
10.45pm Film: SHE WOKE UP (40805483)  
12.35am ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS (8343588)

**MERIDIAN**

As HITV West except:  
12.55pm-1.25pm CROSS WITS (4990174)  
1.25pm HOME AND AWAY (38556174)  
1.55pm A COUNTRY PRACTICE (24027261)  
5.10-5.40pm SHORTLAND STREET (7250193)  
6.30-7.00pm ANGLIA NEWS (483)  
10.00pm NEWS AT TEN: WEATHER (19193)  
10.40pm Film: SHORT SHARP SHOCKS (795464)  
10.50-11.45pm THE VERDICT (347193)

**S4C**

Starts: 6.30am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (52957) 7.00pm THE BIG BREAKFAST (36209) 9.00pm HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER (32342) 9.30pm YSGOLION (526613) 12.00pm SEASIDE STORY (50284) 1.00pm SLOTT MESTHRIN (33356) 1.30pm THE SHORES OF TWO JIMBA (24027261) 1.50pm Film: THE PILOT (398808) 4.00pm FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (396) 4.30pm ANTON MOSIMANN: NATURALLY (280) 5.00pm PUMP (455) 5.30pm COUNTDOWN (532) 6.00pm NEWYDDION (591813) 6.05pm HENO (733208) 6.35pm A SIAN (582754) 7.00pm POBOL Y CWYM (50343) 7.25pm TESTAMENT Y BEIL WEDDI' ANIMEIDDO (234532) 8.00pm CEFN GWLAD (3385) 8.30pm NEWYDDION (6342) 9.00pm GLAN HAFREN (1551) 10.00pm BROOKSIDE (17735) 10.30pm RORY BREKINER — WHO ELSE? (884039) 11.10pm FRIDAY (76829) 12.15pm Film: THE WICKER MAN (30743) 1.50pm Film: THE FACE OF FU MANCHU (106528) 3.40pm Film: THE MIRACLE WOMAN (153014)

**CHANNEL 4**

6.30am THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ (s) (52957) 7.00pm The Big Breakfast (36209) 9.00pm Here's One I Made Earlier (s) (32342) 9.30pm SCOTCHOO! S. Eustace 8.45pm Shop Look Listen 10.00pm Farscape 10.10pm TVM 10.25pm Technology Prog 10.40pm Off Limits 11.05pm Robert Burns 11.20pm Stage One 11.35pm Schools at Work 11.40pm How We Used to Live (526613) 12.00pm The Living Sex (Teletext) (s) (18008) 12.30pm Lit Off (s) (44377) 1.00pm Science Street (3232)  
2.00pm FILM: Two Weeks in Another Town (1963) American satire with Kirk Douglas as a fading Hollywood star who goes to Italy to play a small part in the film being directed by megalomaniac Edward G. Robinson and ends up taking over direction. With Cyd Charisse, George Hamilton and Rosanna Schallino (2602)  
4.00pm FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (Teletext) (s) (396)  
4.30pm COUNTDOWN (Teletext) (s) (280)  
5.00pm TV DINNERS (s) (Teletext) (s) (4551)  
5.30pm OVER THE GARDEN WALL (s) (Teletext) (532)  
6.00pm TFI FRIDAY With guests Sheryl Crowe, Sting, Suede, Stephen Fry and Barry Manilow (s) (52396)  
7.00pm CHANNEL 4 NEWS (Teletext) (676367)  
7.55pm THE SLOTT (228700)  
8.00pm THE LONELY PLANET Ian Wright explores Iceland and Greenland (Teletext) (3385)  
8.30pm BROOKSIDE Max leads pressured to come clean about Neil and Georgina; Lindsey and Mike make a homely discovery (Teletext) (s) (6342)  
9.00pm CAROLINE IN THE CITY Caroline and Del's relationship comes under pressure when their plans to celebrate Christmas in Paris are cancelled. Lorna Luft makes a guest appearance (Teletext) (s) (3280)



Jennifer Aniston as Rachel (9.30pm)

9.30pm FRIENDS: The One with Barry and Mindy's Wedding Rachel is a bridesmaid at her former fiancé's wedding. Last in series (Teletext) (51613)  
10.00pm FRASIER Frasier is attracted to a policewoman who has a crush on his father (Teletext) (s) (1735)  
10.30pm RORY BREKINER — WHO ELSE? With Julia McKenzie (Teletext) (884208)  
11.10pm TFI FRIDAY (s) (76829)  
12.15am FILM: The Wicker Man (1973) with Edward Woodward. Cult classic about pagan worshippers, directed by Robin Hardy (Teletext) (370743)  
1.50pm FILM: The Face of Fu Manchu (1965) with Christopher Lee as Fu Manchu. Directed by Don Sharp (Teletext) (105428)  
3.40pm FILM: The Miracle Woman (1932) with Barbara Stanwyck as a woman promoted as an evangelist who rebels against the sham when she falls in love. Directed by Frank Capra (4947588)

**VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes**  
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are VideoPlus+ codes. These allow you to programme your video recorder to record a particular programme. To use the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record, VideoPlus+ (V) and Video PlusCodes are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

**Wine expert Martin Gluck (8.00pm)**  
8.00pm GLUCK, GLUCK, GLUCK The first of a new wine series with Malcolm Gluck (Ceeleat) (5687)  
8.30pm STEFAN BUZZACK'S GARDENING BRITAIN Alpine plants, cacti and the gardens of Crathes Castle (Ceeleat) (s) (4174)  
9.00pm SHOOTING STARS Spout quiz with guests Ardal O'Hanion, Annette Rice, Dave Lee Travis and Carol Vorderman (Ceeleat) (s) (2954)  
9.30pm RED DWARF Vt Legion Sci-Fi comedy with Craig Charles and Chris Barrie (s) (39445)  
10.00pm HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU Satirical news quiz with Angus Deayton, Paul Merton and Ian Hislop joined by Eve Pollard and Jack Docherty (s) (22657)  
10.30pm NEWSNIGHT (Ceeleat) (873193)  
11.15pm THE A FORCE (s) (355261)  
11.55pm FILM: JOBBAN (1980) with Kevin Smith, Tatum Menjies and Lynn Gaines. A deaf and dumb man returns from the city to his wife and baby in the country, where he sets off a chain of violence and is forced to go on the run. Directed by Darrell Rood (188089) Ends 2.55

**SKY MOVIES GOLD**  
4.00pm Film: Girl Friday (1940) (8001358)  
6.00pm Project X (1987) (2250700) 8.00pm The Long Walk (1986) (2252412) 9.00pm Coppen the Barberian (1982) (2970071)  
12.15am At Close Range (1993) (808782) 2.10pm The Untouchables (1960) (2970071)  
12.30pm The Disney Channel  
Sky Movies Gold takes over at 10pm.  
6.00pm Movie: The Godfather (1972) (8001358)  
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12





## CRICKET 45

Why Simpson has little time for the English game

## SPORT

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22 1996

## GOLF 48

Way struggling to keep a grip on European tour



Brussels a brake to in tourism

## Juventus show Ferguson the way to go

By ROB HUGHES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

WHEN winter's bite is harsh, and your team is beaten by a penalty, it takes a grand game to warm 53,520 chilled souls seated in a football stadium. But we shall remember November 20, a night on which Juventus, the champions of Europe, dominated Manchester United with controlled movement and technique for half the game, a half in which it was as clear as the luminous moon that English clubs still have an awful lot to learn.

Alex Ferguson, the most successful manager in the British game, owned up after the final whistle. "It was a disappointing night," the Manchester United manager said. "These are the nights of Europe you remember. It would be silly to think you

should dominate just because you are at home; the Juventus movement of the ball and their work ethic was fantastic."

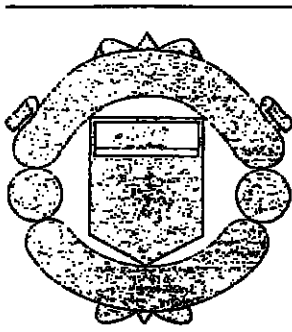
So, in its fashion, was the way the will of the crowd transmitted to young players such as Ryan Giggs and David Beckham on United's wings, so that, for the second half, chasing the game, Manchester could at least recapture pride in defeat.

Such a wonderful, spirited, obsessional pursuit, this football. Alas, in Portugal in the same European Champions' League competition on Wednesday, came reports of a distasteful, foul-ridden, drawn match between FC Porto and AC Milan, after which a brawl in the tunnel was ignited, allegedly, by a malicious butt from George Weah. The most lauded footballer in the world, a Liberian who could yet be destined to play for Arsenal,

apparently lost his head and butted Jorge Costa, the Porto captain, so viciously that the Portuguese player was taken to hospital with a suspected broken nose.

Thank goodness for the cold reality of northern England. There, the defeat, but not yet the end of United's quest for European success, had certain defining moments. One was in the fortieth minute, when Alan Boksic glided past David May. In full flight, he suddenly stopped and dragged back the ball, while May kept on running. It was reminiscent of Billy Wright and Ferenc Puskas, the lesson of another November, 43 years ago, when Geoffrey Green, in this newspaper, suggested that Wright was so deceived that he ran off like a fire engine towards the wrong fire.

What has changed is the athleticism, the speed and



stealth with which a man such as Boksic, whom Ferguson sought to buy for £6 million, guides the ball. Because Peter Schmeichel managed to block the angle, it came to nothing. But the winning moment had already happened.

Youth was at the heart of it, as Nicky Butt was drawn into an invidious tackle on Alessandro del Piero. The

GROUP C

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	4	3	1	0	10	4	7
Fenerbahce	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Man Utd	4	1	2	1	5	6	4
Rapido Vienna	4	0	2	2	3	10	2

RESULTS: Juventus 1 Manchester Utd 0; Rapid Vienna 1 Fenerbahce 1; Manchester Utd 2 Rapid Vienna 0; Fenerbahce 0 Juventus 1; Juventus 1 Rapid Vienna 1; Juventus 1 Fenerbahce 0; Manchester Utd 2; Juventus 5 Rapid Vienna 0; Manchester Utd 0 Fenerbahce 1; Manchester Utd 0 Juventus 1; Fenerbahce 1 Rapid Vienna 0.

MATCHES TO COME: Dec 4: Rapid Vienna v Manchester Utd; Juventus v Fenerbahce.

Trafford afterwards, both managers had something to say about the influence of the French. "The best two Frenchmen this night played for Juventus," Marcello Lippi, the Juventus coach, observed. Ferguson could not disagree, could not this time defend Eric Cantona, whose nifty finishing mirrored the statistic that told us United had an inaccuracy count of missing the target in ten of 14 attempts.

Didier Deschamps dominated the centre of the field, Zinedine Zidane, balding though only 24, strode forward and dispensed pinpoint and imaginative passes. "I thought Zidane was fantastic," Ferguson said. "We looked at him four times at Bordeaux last season, but he has developed fantastically well."

"He has lost a lot of surplus weight, he's looking really lean since going to Juventus.

At Bordeaux, we couldn't decide which was his best position; it says a lot for Lippi that he has become such an obvious talent in midfield now."

So, Ferguson was admitting that he had looked for another French talent, one who has taken the place of Cantona in his national side, for his own team. Twice beaten by Juventus, beaten for the signatures of both Boksic and Zidane, Ferguson is still likely to recruit from abroad. On Wednesday night, the Italians — players and journalists — were refuelling the speculation that Fabrizio Ravanelli would join United.

Ravanelli, indeed, was among the United crowd. He stayed late and spoke to important figures at United. But Ferguson has said that he would not entice the player away from Middlesbrough.

managed by Bryan Robson, his former protégé.

Yet the game of procurement is destructive. Ajax, European Cup finalists for the past three seasons, are a shadow of their former selves after the asset-stripping consequences of the Bosman ruling. On Wednesday, Ajax lost at home to Auxerre despite having two-thirds of the possession and enough chances to have won comfortably.

But at least nothing happened there to sully the essence of football. In Portugal, it did. Milan were by far the more culpable in a game of 53 fouls, and José Carlos Esteves, the Porto team doctor, said he was an eye-witness, as was the referee, to "a deliberate headbutt by Weah. It was a savage attack. I have never seen anything like it, this is not sport." No sir, but Old Trafford was.

## Sheasby steps in to entertain at Twickenham

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

FOR SOME, birthday presents come early. Chris Sheasby has been acting as the England rugby union squad's entertainment officer during their four days together this week but yesterday the replacement back-row forward came off the bench and will win his first cap, one week ahead of his thirtieth birthday, against Italy at Twickenham tomorrow.

Sheasby's belated chance arrived when Ben Clarke was finally forced to concede yesterday that a badly-bruised leg that has prevented him from training for the past week would not allow him to take his place in the back row. Tim Rodber will move from No 8 to take up the blind-side flanker role with which he is thoroughly familiar and Sheasby will take his place, joining forces with his scrum half from Wasps, Andy Gomarsall, and his club captain, Lawrence Dallaglio; Martin Corry, of Bristol, joins the replacements for the first time.

"No 8 is my preference. I like to control things and run the back-row moves," Sheasby, a part-time teacher at Pangbourne College, Berkshire, said. "It is perfect to be linking up with my club colleagues — I certainly won't feel lost."

The highlight of Sheasby's career to date was his part in the England team that won the inaugural World Cup Sevens in 1993 but, to a degree,

that success has blighted his career. His elevation now completes a meteoric rise for a player frequently written off as a sevens exponent only. That Sheasby grafted so successfully for Harlequins was ignored until last year when England A recognised his qualities; his move across London to Wasps last summer, though a surprise to many, has been thoroughly justified in that their style of play suits Sheasby's dynamic approach and carried him into the national squad ahead of last season's England A captain, Tony Diproese.

That Sheasby also moved because he felt his loyalty to Harlequins had been undervalued is a matter for him and the club where he spent ten years. Towards the end of that period he did not enjoy the best of relationships with Richard Best, director of rugby at the Stoop, who may be in hot water with the Rugby Football Union (RFU) for derogatory remarks made about union members and the present England management in the most recent edition of *Rugby News*.

Best, the England coach between 1992 and 1994, and the RFU parted company on the worst of terms but publication of critical remarks of his successor, Jack Rowell, on the eve of the first international of the season will win him few friends. "It is not my practice to comment on or criticise the work of other coaches," Rowell said. "I do not understand the

motives of people who seek to disrupt the preparations of the national team."

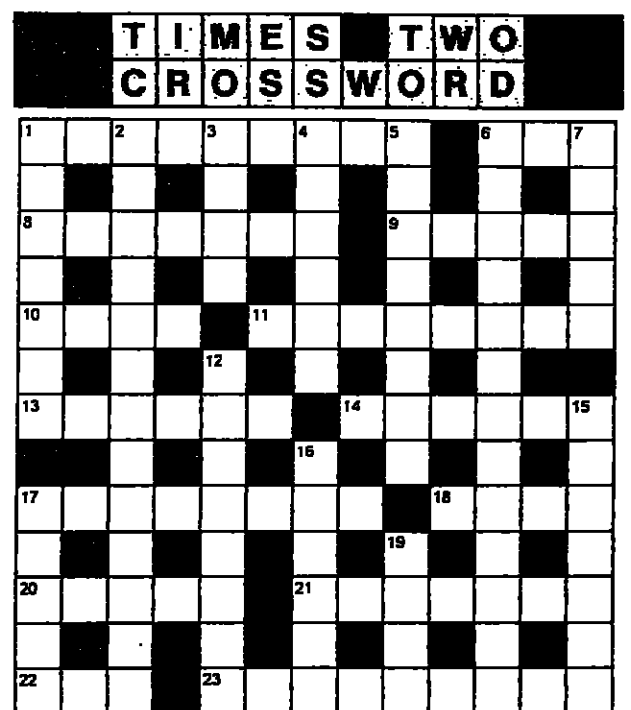
Sheasby, 16 stone and 6ft 3in, will be the fifth newcomer in the XV tomorrow, but the quietest will be given little opportunity to find their feet by the captain, Phil de Glanville. "There is no honeymoon period on the pitch and they know that," de Glanville said. "It will be a special moment for all of them but we need them contributing from the first minute."

The new captain has also warned against undue equanimity by England's supporters against a thoroughly experienced Italy side that encountered travel difficulties before arriving in London last night. A crowd of 50,000 is expected, though tickets will be on sale tomorrow — a rare event in recent times — and de Glanville said: "Italy will be here to prove they should be part of the five nations' championship and I can see no reason why they should not be admitted."

Leading questions, page 46  
Coded warning, page 46



The England squad, which will include five newcomers against Italy tomorrow, trains in the lengthening shadows at Twickenham yesterday



No 946

- ACROSS
- Strong liquor... (4,5)
  - ...a dram of it (3)
  - Adhere to (tease) (7)
  - Warm and humid (5)
  - Lie in furtive wait (4)
  - Superficial, like beauty (4-4)
  - Firework: severe reprimand (6)
  - Grab (6)
  - Frozen, sweet (3,5)
  - Slender; unconvincing (excess) (4)
  - Upright (5)
  - Swimmer's air-tube (7)
  - Child: another dram (3)
  - One who comes next (9)
- DOWN
- Unscrupulous operator (7)
  - Resumption of friendly relations (1,3)
  - Drive (animal) off (4)
  - On which good learners are quick (6)
  - Womanly (8)
  - Of not much value, interest (2,5,6)
  - Settle debt (3,2)
  - Rubbish, waste (8)
  - Dealer; animal trainer (7)
  - Sweet white Gironde wine (6)
  - Clumsy; out of place (5)
  - Tadious person (4)

The solution to 945 will be published Wednesday, November 27

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## McCoy hurries to his century of winners

By RICHARD EVANS  
RACING CORRESPONDENT

TONY MCCOY rewrote racing's record books at Warwick yesterday when he completed the earliest century of winners achieved by a National Hunt jockey. The 22-year-old rider beat the previous record held by Peter Scudamore, who reached the 100 mark on December 20 in 1988 and 1989. "It's unbelievable, absolutely brilliant," McCoy said after being cheered into the winner's enclosure on Class Of Ninetytwo after the Shipston Handicap Chase. "Three years ago I could not even get 100 rides."

In his first season in England, McCoy rode 74 winners to be leading conditional jockey and last year his 175 victories made him champion jockey.

He rode his first winner this season on the opening day at Perth in June and required only 331 rides to complete his century. However, technically, his was not the fastest hundred. Scudamore achieved his centuries in a considerably shorter time as the jumps seasons then began in August, two months later than now.

Scudamore, who was at Warwick to see McCoy's feat, reflected: "It's a fantastic achievement whichever way



McCoy: record-breaker

you look at it, I have tremendous admiration for Tony."

If McCoy avoids injuries, he is likely to be champion jockey for the second successive year and could beat the overall record of 221 winners in a season, set by Scudamore in 1989.

McCoy has decided to appeal against his recent Newton Abbot whip ban. The hearing is expected to take place on Tuesday. The three-day suspension, if it is confirmed, will rule him out of the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury tomorrow week.

Racing, page 47

## Houston delighted as Spencer goes west

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

JOHN SPENCER, the Chelsea striker, moved across west London to join Queens Park Rangers for £2.5 million yesterday. He is likely to make his debut against Reading at Elm Park tomorrow.

Spencer, 26, was Chelsea's leading scorer with 14 league and cup goals last season, but had become an increasingly peripheral figure at Stamford Bridge. He made only four substitute appearances in the FA Cup Premiership this season. It is the first signing by Stewart Houston, the QPR manager, since he left Arsenal to take over at the Nationwide League first division club two months ago. "I'm delighted at being able to sign John," Houston said. "He's going to be a great asset. He has a good background and a lot of experience for someone of his age. I had to move quickly once I knew he was available."

Rangers are without Kevin Gallen, the England Under-21 forward, for the rest of the season after he damaged ankle ligaments. Spencer, who was a member of Scotland's Euro 96 squad, joined Chelsea from Rangers for £450,000 four years ago.

Alan Shearer's renowned powers of recuperation have ensured a swift return to Newcastle United's Premiership

title chase. Only a month after undergoing groin surgery, he will play against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge tomorrow. Shearer, scorer of eight goals in 13 matches this season, has missed six league and cup games. His recovery took on greater significance when Les Ferdinand, his strike partner, was ruled out for six weeks after fracturing a cheekbone on Saturday.

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, also spent yesterday mulling over the future of Darren Huckerby, Coventry City have made an offer of £1 million for the striker, 20, who spent a week on trial at Highfield Road last month.

Coventry have announced losses of almost £8 million for the year ended last May, the result of spending £7.8 million on new players. The club's summer signings, Gary McAllister and the Belgium international, Reggie Genaux, are not included in the accounts.

Stan Lazaridis, the Australia winger, is to sign a three-year extension to his contract with West Ham United. Manchester City have failed in an attempt to lure Mark Schwarzer, the Australian goalkeeper, from Kaiserslautern, in Germany.

Plymouth in crisis, page 48  
Gullit blues, page 50

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# Brussels applies brake to inquiry on tourism fraud

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission has acknowledged for the first time the existence of large-scale corruption among some of its officials, but a Belgian police investigation is being blocked by the Commission's refusal to allow officials to be questioned.

Fresh evidence of a long-standing scandal in the Commission's tourism division emerged this week in a report by the Court of Auditors, the European Union's official watchdog, which accuses the Brussels executive of failing to crack down on the fraudulent misuse of funds in the tourism budget. The funds, which average about £5 million a year, are used to promote such things as studies and building projects in member states.

George Tzanos, former chief of the tourism unit, has been in police custody in Brussels since last January on suspicion of bribery and fraud, but no charges have been brought. His wife and a French former Commission employee are free on bail.

Last month the European Parliament froze a quarter of Commissioners' salaries until the Commission stops financial abuses in its tourism division, notably in the tourism

area. In the biggest case of its kind to come to light at the Commission, the arrested men are alleged to have been involved in the extortion of bribes in return for authorising the funding of projects to promote tourism in Greece, France and other states.

In its response to the auditors' study, handed to the European Parliament on Tuesday, the Commission said that investigations had shown "large secret payments" to members of Commission staff in return for the award of grants. The Commission said that closer co-operation with national prosecutors "should make it possible to bring all those involved in such types of fraud before the courts".

However, the Belgian fraud police, brought in last year after complaints from the European Parliament, say that their inquiry has been stalled by the Commission's refusal to lift the immunity of the Director-General responsible for tourism policy and of two former senior officials, including Alan Mayhew, a Briton.

Heinrich von Moltke, who headed Directorate-General 23 throughout the alleged abuse of funds, was ordered

last month to take early retirement. Officials say that his record is unblemished. As the beneficiaries of a diplomatic status, EU officials enjoy life-long immunity from the attentions of national police.

Edward McMillan-Scott, Conservative MEP for North Yorkshire, whose campaigning launched the Belgian police inquiry last year, welcomed the Commission's acknowledgment of the existence of the bribes racket, but accused it of engaging in a systematic cover-up. He called for a parliamentary inquiry into the alleged corruption.

The auditors' report had pulled its punches by failing to identify culprits, he said. The Commission, charged by the auditors with dragging its feet on a promised clean-up, has reorganised the tourism department and asked its internal fraud investigators to report on all 475 projects funded between 1990 and 1994.

The results will not be known until next June. Christos Papoutis, the Commissioner in charge of tourism, said the corruption was a "thing of the past" that did not involve the Commission which took office last year under Jacques Santer.

## Paris gives its highest honour to Malraux

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE ashes of the writer André Malraux will be placed alongside the earthly remains of France's most revered citizens in the Panthéon in Paris tomorrow in a ceremony marking the culmination of a carefully orchestrated campaign of hero worship.

France lauds its celebrated dead like no other nation, and in recent days the adoration of Malraux as soldier, freedom fighter, philosopher, statesman and fashion icon has reached a crescendo.

His raffish features now appear on the three-franc stamp and editions of his works, most notably *La Condition Humaine* and *l'Esprit*, are flooding bookshops. The Paris Métro is festooned with posters recalling his words and thoughts, and last week *Elle* magazine devoted an entire feature to the "Malraux style".

Exactly 20 years after Malraux's death at the age of 75, President Chirac will join such literary luminaries as Voltaire, Victor Hugo, Paul Valéry and Marcel Proust in the Panthéon, where the writer's remains will take their place next to those of Voltaire, Hugo and Rousseau.

M Chirac's eulogy is likely to dwell not only on Malraux's writings, but also on his Far Eastern travels, his role as a Republican fighter in



André Malraux as Minister for Cultural Affairs in the 1960s, and below, the Panthéon

the Spanish Civil War, and his bravery as a French Resistance leader.

Much attention has rightly been paid to Malraux's role as President de Gaulle's Culture Minister between 1959 and 1969, when he launched a campaign to restore France's great monuments and establish cultural centres throughout the country.

The event has also provided an opportunity to discuss the more complex aspects of his life: such as his heroin addiction,

his wide sexual appetites, the temples he allegedly robbed in Cambodia in the 1920s and his strange political odyssey, beginning with sympathy for Communism, evolving through bitter opposition to fascism and colonialism, and ending with Malraux as the staunch conservative and anti-Communist.

Only the extreme-right National Front has challenged his right to a place in the Panthéon, which is the highest honour France can bestow.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Italians break up art ring

Rome: Italian police said yesterday that they had broken up an international art smuggling ring and retrieved a "priceless" haul of antiquities, including Greek vases and a fourth-century sarcophagus (Richard Owen writes).

The operation had involved police in Italy, France, Germany, Austria and the United States. Two Italian art smugglers who masterminded the ring are under arrest.

### Sihanouk backs Amnesty plea

Phnom Penh: King Sihanouk has urged the Government to punish drunken soldiers who allegedly killed six children with a rocket launcher in September. He said that Amnesty International had written to him and it was "my duty to support all the legitimate requests made by Amnesty International". (AP)

### Bomb in lift

Sofia: A Bulgarian insurance company official was killed and two others were hurt by a bomb in a lift in the Black Sea port of Varna. Bombings are often used to settle business conflicts here. (Reuters)

### Soldiers killed

Bangui: Four loyalist troops were killed by mutinous soldiers in the Central African Republic, where a five-day revolt has paralysed the capital. France has reinforced its Bangui garrison. (Reuters)

### Chiluba sworn in

Lusaka: President Chiluba of Zambia was sworn in for a second term, having won about 70 per cent of the 1.19 million votes counted in elections marred by an opposition boycott. (Reuters)

### Bryant loses cash

Hobart: The Tasmanian parliament has stripped Martin Bryant of his seat in the House of Representatives today, of his wealth, amounting to about \$1 million (£480,000). (Reuters)

### Fatal appeal

Nairobi: Johana Ndung'u, 27, serving a six-year prison sentence for robbery with violence, had a rude shock here when the Court of Appeal replaced the jail term with a death sentence. (AFP)

### 19 die in blast

San Juan, Puerto Rico: At least 19 people were killed and dozens injured when an explosion at a shoe store nearby destroyed a six-storey building. The cause was believed to be a gas leak. (AP)

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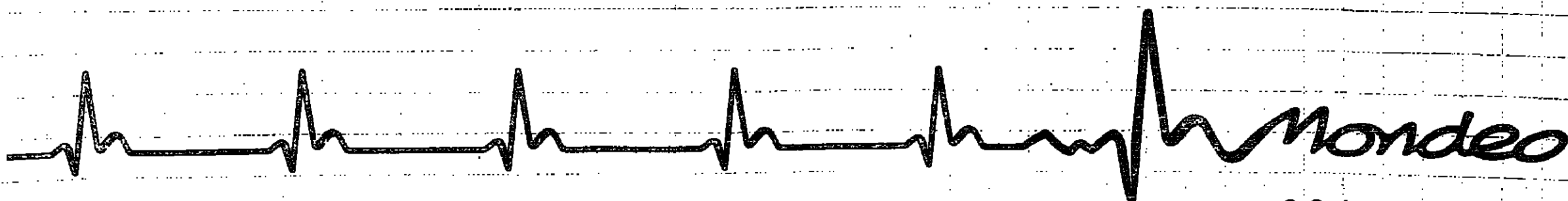
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# Clinton tells Australians to treasure ethnic mix

By Roger Maynard in Sydney and Our Foreign Staff

AFTER a month of intense national debate over Australia's immigration and multicultural policies, President Clinton yesterday argued that a nation's ethnic diversity was its greatest source of strength and pride.

Congratulating the Australian people on uniting so many different nationalities, he said: "I cannot think of a better place in the entire world, a more shining example of how people can come together as one nation and one community than Sydney, Australia."

The greatest challenge facing the world in the next century was to find a way to "let our children define themselves in terms of who they are, not who they are not", he added.

Mr Clinton's remarks follow a dispute over immigration sparked by Pauline Hanson, an independent MP, who claimed in parliament that Asian immigrants were "wrecking Australia".

Her comments caused up-roar at the time but have attracted widespread support from middle Australia. Hillary Clinton avoided racial issues when she addressed an audience of women at the Sydney Opera House. In a speech urging a balanced distribution of power in society, the First Lady said women's rights were human rights, pointing out that the strong

female vote in the American elections indicated it was vital that women's issues were addressed.

Democracies in every continent should understand that issues affecting women "are not soft or marginal but are central to the progress and prosperity of every nation", she said.

Mr Clinton will meet Jiang Zemin, the Chinese President, in Manila at the weekend. In China yesterday Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, praised China's progress on human rights. He also came very near to calling the new US-Chinese relationship a "partnership".

Mr Christopher made no mention of the two leading political prisoners, Wei Jingsheng, now serving 14 years after completing almost 15, and Wang Dan, beginning an 11-year sentence following one of almost four years.

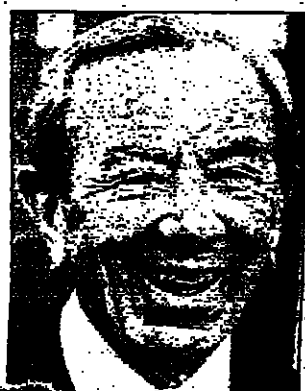
In Manila, the Asian Pacific Rim economies yesterday unveiled an ambitious plan to free trade and investment in the world's most dynamic region.

The Manila Action Plan, which outlined the steps to be taken to remove impediments to economic growth, is to be presented for the official imprimatur of 18 world leaders who will hold their summit at Subic on Monday.

Last night Mr and Mrs Clinton flew into the Queensland resort of Port Douglas for a two-day holiday including a snorkelling trip to the Great Barrier Reef.

Under par: President Clinton took to the fairways yesterday with Greg Norman, the Australian golfing legend, and soon found himself getting a few lessons.

Teeing off at the New South Wales Golf Club, Mr Clinton was asked how he felt playing with the world's top player. "Terrified," he said with a smile. As the two progressed around the course, Norman could be seen passing on tips to the President. (Reuters)



Mr Clinton: praise



A stranded office-worker slumps against a thirteenth-floor window as the Hong Kong fire takes hold

## Patten weeps over 39 blaze deaths

From Jonathan Miskry in Hong Kong

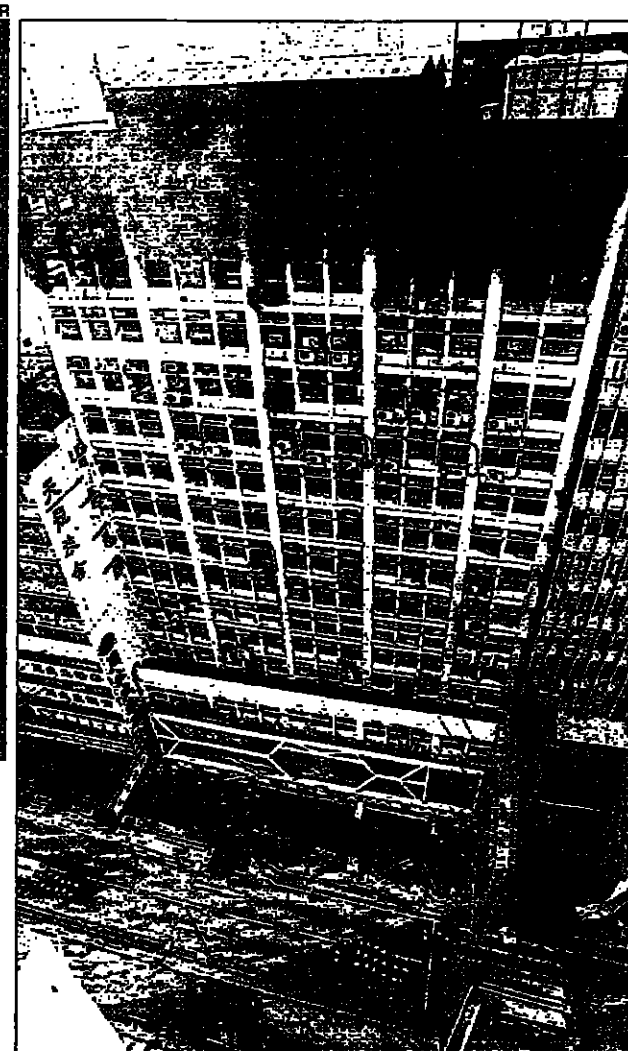
HONG KONG'S worst building fire in a century has killed 39 people.

Eighty people were injured and 39 were still missing last night after a blaze that took 300 firefighters 21 hours to extinguish. The fire began in a 16-floor

commercial building in Kowloon. Survivors were carried down ladders or jumped from windows. The building's metal frames and air conditioners melted in the heat.

Firefighters said that they had been delayed in entering the building by locked doors and because there were no fire exits. They said, too, that there was no

sprinkler system or adequate fire alarm. Chris Patten, the Governor, reported on the fire — "plainly a terrible tragedy" — to the Legislative Council, weeping as he mentioned "Senior Fireman Liu Chihung, who lost his life battling courageously to save the lives of others". The Queen and the Foreign Secretary sent messages of sympathy to the Governor.



The Kowloon office block where the huge blaze claimed 39 lives. Eighty people were injured

## Magistrate killed in Taiwan mass shooting

From Reuters in Taipei

ASSASSINS burst into a county magistrate's home, tied up nine people and shot each in the head yesterday, killing the official and seven others.

The only survivor was in critical condition last night and was unlikely to live, officials said.

Liu Pang-yu, 54, Taoyuan county magistrate and a member of Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party, died in hospital seven hours after the shooting. Police said two gunmen raided Mr Liu's home, bound the hands of Mr Liu and eight others and shot each at close range. Five died instantly.

The assassination rekindled memories of the killing in February 1980 of the mother and daughters of a jailed Taiwan independence advocate in a politically charged case that remains unsolved. In August, the Taiwanese Justice Ministry launched a crack-

down on crime gangs that Liao Cheng-hao, the Justice Minister, said had infiltrated the country's business and political circles and even parliament, triggering fears of underworld reprisals.

Police said that Mr Liu's killers had worked swiftly in what had all the signs of a premeditated assassination. "The method of the shooting shows that they wanted them to die at once. It took just ten minutes," a police spokesman said from Taoyuan, home of Taiwan's main airport south of Taipei.

Investigators found a stolen getaway car abandoned nearby as police mounted a search for the killers. Airports and seaports stepped up checks on departing passengers. The Interior Ministry offered a 6650,000 reward for information leading to the assassins' arrest.

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# Britain steals a kiss on France

Paris has published a new tourist guide, which says you have to kiss to get the best out of the city, and it offers smart tourists advice on where to get intimate. Joe Joseph introduces the definitive British version

A romantic weekend in Paris used to consist of booking a room at a cute Left Bank hotel, dining in a cosy bistro, and then taking a moonlit stroll by the Seine. If you actually had a girl to go to Paris with, that was a huge bonus.

But now a new tourist manual — *The Kissing Guide to Paris* — says sleeping, walking and eating aren't enough. You have to smooch to get the best out of the city and it offers advice on where smart tourists can get intimate.

Recommended kissing places include beneath the Pont Neuf, and the Café de l'Hôtel de Ville, where Robert Doisneau took his famous 1950s photo of two lovers kissing — though if you're a coach party, take it in turns: disembarking at kissing sites en masse will confuse the locals into thinking you are an avant garde drama troupe that gives impromptu performances of *The Decameron*.

This is just the sort of march that Paris shouldn't be stealing on London, which is again rated as the world's hottest city. Street corners are thick with American and European journalists writing feature articles about how "London is swinging again". Even Parisians are fleeing France for weekends in London to soak up some chicness.

So where exactly is *The Kissing Guide to Britain*? It's here:

**Trafalgar Square:** Central and therefore handy for a quick smooch en route to the National Gallery, or the theatre. The symbolism is a bit on the blatant side, but there is the extra thrill of avoiding aerial bombardment by pigeons while you kiss. Some grown men pay folding money for this sort of excitement.

**10 Downing Street:** Exploiting his rapport with people, John Major will soon begin weekly Pope-like addresses to tourist kissers, reminding them that he didn't always used to kiss in a posh house in Whitehall. Oh no. Far from it. He used to kiss in two rooms in Brixton. But he believes in choice. Everybody should be free to kiss whom they want to, and where (except maybe John Gummer).

**University College, Oxford:** Bill Clinton's old college: for shy types on a first

date who want to try the kissing experience without having to inhale.

**Brighton Beach:** Perfect spot for film lovers who want to recreate the passion Deborah Kerr and Bert Lancaster whipped up in *From Here To Eternity*. A warning: you'll never get the pebbles out of your swimming trunks and for months afterwards you'll be able to sand whole planks of wood smooth just by sitting on them.

**Labour Party headquarters, Watford Road, southeast London:** Ask at the door and Tony Blair will schmooze you while you canoodle: "Yes, kiss. A good kiss. New kisses. Kisses for capitalism."

Harvey Nichols after Harrods started charging shoppers £1 per lavvy visit.

**Harvey Nichols department store, Knightsbridge:** "I don't kiss on the mouth," says Julia Roberts, in *Pretty Woman*. Well, the women in Harvey Nichols don't either, but don't get the wrong idea. Harvey Nicks is one of the kissing hot spots. Constant kissing in the aisles — though rarely for romantic reasons. It's not just mouths that are avoided. The convention is to kiss without any contact at all.

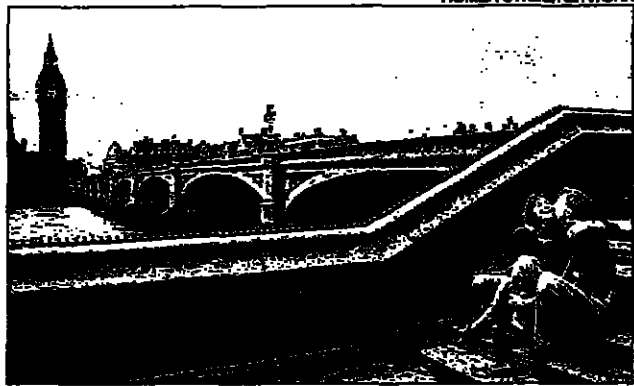
**Wembley Stadium:** A shrine for tourists who haven't had a peck for a while and are convinced that kissing's coming home. Just make sure a German coach party doesn't rob you of your romantic climax at the last minute.

**Glydebourne:** Chic outdoor spot for fans of an opera-style kiss, a kiss, I said I want a kiss. (Chorus: "She wants a kiss. She says she wants a kiss"). (Second chorus: "Well go on, give her one. Well go on, give her one, her one, her one. Well go on, give her one.")

**Tower of London:** Favourite spot for old-fashioned men keen to kiss their wives in an historical setting: stony, forbidding, and covered in raven droppings — still she's good to the kids and deserves an occasional treat.

**Parliament Square:** Many MPs will happily sell you a kiss if you hand over £1,000. If they're too busy to kiss you themselves, ask around in the House of Commons to see if they can find anyone else. In Soho you can get the same thing but without so much sleaze, and the prices are far more reasonable.

If working out where to kiss makes you so edgy that it ruins your holiday, you can do what Woody Allen does in *Annie Hall* when he asks Diane Keaton for a kiss before they have even begun their first date, so there is no awkward anticipation hanging over the event. So if you spot plane loads of French and German tourists snogging in the arrivals lounge at Heathrow, indulge them: they're probably just shy tourists trying to quell their holiday nerves.



Try a little romance on the steps of Westminster Bridge

Kisses safe in our hands. A thousand kisses for a thousand years. Kisses for everybody, not just the few. Why? Why not. Why not? Emotion. Love. Lips. Red lips. Red Sierra. Red rose. Red Rum. Drink. Drunk. How about it. Why? Why not? Your place, my place, our place. Goodnight.

**Headquarters of Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party:** Kissing is allowed, with one proviso: both parties to the union must be balloted first.

**BBC Television Centre:** A recent arrival on the capital's kissing scene because once only BBC employees were allowed to kiss inside TV Centre, but under the new Birtist regime at least 25 per cent of kissing has to be contracted out.

**Harrods department store, Knightsbridge:** Used to be kissers' paradise, particularly the lavishly appointed lavatories. But kissers have switched to



London is rated the world's hottest city again, and even Parisians are fleeing France for weekends to soak up its chicness

## The day I left my life at Victoria station

This is a story with a happy ending — but by God it was a close-run thing. Picture, if you will, the scene at Victoria station last Friday evening. There are five minutes to go before the 6.15 departs for Lewes — time enough for a quick call to my weekend hosts. I balance my personal organiser (it used to be called a diary) on top of the public telephone at Platform 15, dial the number, find it engaged, gather up my luggage and head for the train.

It is as I am sitting in my compartment, lost in Fergie's breath-taking interview with Oprah Winfrey, that an image flashes in some distant cavity of my mind. It is of a personal organiser still sitting mutely on top of the public telephone on Platform 15.

With the image comes a sickening lurch of the stomach as the rest of the brain signals emergency alert. In a single movement I scoop three pieces of luggage from the overhead rack, fling open the door and race back along the platform.

The telephone that I had used looms in the distance, at first blurred, like Omar Sharif in the desert scene from *Lawrence of Arabia*, then finally in focus. It has no familiar little device on top of it. It is naked, empty, sans personal organiser.

I pass my hand over the space where I had left it, somehow imagining that it must still be there, temporarily dematerialised. But no, it has gone, perhaps for ever. My stiff upper lip quivers alarmingly.

I may have mentioned that a personal organiser is like a diary. The comparison is absurd. It is an integral part of one's being, a component of

Magnus Linklater on a very personal piece of lost property

the central nervous system, a genetic *sine qua non*. A personal organiser contains, electronically stored, every known piece of information around which your life revolves. These are not just names, addresses, telephone numbers, dates, anniversaries, notes, memos, random jottings and the time in Honolulu.

There are secret things of the greatest intimacy

There are secret things of the greatest intimacy. These are secret things of the greatest intimacy, guarded by a password which even your wife doesn't know. But owning a personal organiser has a more insidious effect. Because it is such a reliable databank, the mind relaxes, handing over some of its normal responsibilities in the memory area. Thus the half-agreement to address the East Fife Rotarians on Wednesday week, or the reminder memo that Great Aunt Clare expects a bed on Tuesday night, are left in limbo because we know that the personal organiser has them in hand. Reconstructing its contents is a hopeless task because the brain has simply lost the files.

Finding it therefore became my obsession. I telephoned Victoria station, or Central Rail Inquiries as it is now called. I knew things were going to be difficult as soon as the voice said: "Hello, my name is Derek. How may I help you?" I explained the problem in what John Major would call his specially calm voice.

"Oh dear, this is going to be difficult," said Derek. "Which train were you on?" I said I had not been on a train at the time. I had only been heading for one. "Yes, but we need to know what company you

were travelling with," said Derek. "You see, they have a special responsibility for their customers and I'm sure they'll do their best to help. Now, was it Connex South East, Connex South Central or Gatwick Express?"

I know I have been away from London for some time but I hadn't realised that they had changed the language. I tried to compensate by speaking very clearly, rather as you might talk to a deranged lunatic holding a gun to the head of your child.

"What would happen," I said, "if someone found some lost property in Victoria station and handed it to a porter — er..." I fumbled desperately for the right words. "...a railway operative, a customer relations representative, a transport services executive?"

"I simply don't know," said Derek. "You see, with this privatisation we're all a bit at sixes and sevens."

Luckily, I didn't believe him. We journalists have ways of finding these things out. Within a mere 24 hours I had determined that there is a Lost Property Office at Victoria station. It is operated by Railtrack Ltd (of course). You can't speak to it but you can leave despairing messages on its answering machine. A friend, to whom I now owe a debt in blood, called in and gave a description. A very nice man called Fred Fernandez, whom I claim as a brother, reported that it had indeed been handed in. I feel I have rejoined the human race. Lessons to be learnt: always copy the contents of your personal organiser into a computer, provided you can find out how to do it. This will mean that you never get too emotionally entangled with it. Paste a little notice inside the lid offering large sums of money to whoever finds it. And make a note of the half dozen or so lost property offices that now serve each of our mainline stations — in your personal organiser, of course.

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Bahamas	70p	1.00p
Bangladesh	40p	1.00p
Belgium	40p	1.00p
Bonaire/Aruba	50p	1.00p
Brazil	60p	1.00p
Canada	40p	1.00p
Caribbean	50p	1.00p
Chile	60p	1.00p
China	80p	1.00p
Colombia	70p	1.00p
Costa Rica	50p	1.00p
Czech Rep	40p	1.00p
Denmark	30p	1.00p
Egypt	70p	1.00p
France	20p	1.00p
Germany	30p	1.00p
Ghana	40p	1.00p
Greece	50p	1.00p
Guatemala	40p	1.00p
Hong Kong	40p	1.00p
Hungary	30p	1.00p
India	60p	1.00p
Indonesia	60p	1.00p
Ireland	30p	1.00p
Israel	60p	1.00p
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Jordan	70p	1.00p
Korea	80p	1.00p
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Mexico	70p	1.00p
Morocco	60p	1.00p
Netherlands	30p	1.00p
New Zealand	30p	1.00p
Nigeria	70p	1.00p
Norway	30p	1.00p
Oman	70p	1.00p
Pakistan	70p	1.00p
Panama	70p	1.00p
Peru	70p	1.00p
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Poland	30p	1.00p
Portugal	30p	1.00p
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# I've been in love, and I have had love affairs. But it's never quite worked out

Sue MacGregor on why she would be happy to play topless darts — and the moment Fergie almost broke down during her radio interview

I was just after an interview with Kevin MacKenzie about topless darts that Gary Richards of the *Today* programme's sports reporter and, full-on, asked Sue MacGregor if she would take part in topless darts. "If it's on radio I'm quite happy," replied Sue amiably, untroubled as always.

The nation's two most famous redheads made a study in contrasts when Sue did the only radio interview with the Duchess of York — chronologically first of many such "exclusives".

Roger Mosey, the *Today* editor, will be on *Feedback* this morning to answer aggrieved listeners (30 callers) who disapproved of a prime-time slot usually reserved for political leaders, being given to such a trivial subject as that woman. His defence is that it was a terrific interview. If it lacked the jokiness of the Ruby Wax treatment, it had an amity and directness and millions of us were riveted.

"Yes, I was that very vulnerable, very fragile, very naive person..." said Fergie. "Very foolish person, too," interrupted Sue, equably. "Being without your husband doesn't inevitably lead to unfaithfulness," Sue went on, "and you have admitted being unfaithful to Andrew." "I haven't admitted it," said Fergie obliquely. Were you unfaithful to him? "I don't think that's relevant..." It's certainly not mentioned in the book...

Yesterday morning Miss MacGregor was enjoying a day off; she had been planning a trip to Paris by Eurostar. Everything was in a modest, sunny flat in neat, like her well-coiffed, ever in control, incapable of embarrassing anyone. For 25 years, on *Woman's Hour* and *Today*, she has been the consummate broadcaster, epitome of reassurance, the picture of composure.

Fergie interview was just a... her assignment in a life of exacting routines: the 3.30am alarm, her 4.30 arrival

at Broadcasting House, her 9am sessions at the health club. She is a veteran of royal interviews: the Duke of Edinburgh, the Princess Royal, Prince Andrew... When she asked Prince Andrew about love, he replied that when the lightning bolt happened, he would know. As they left the studio, he confided that the lightning bolt had already happened, as he had already met Sarah Ferguson.

So ten years on, she found herself waiting for Fergie in a

## THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW



bedroom in the Berkeley Hotel. "She arrived in a mac with her collar up, and no make-up. I thought she was in a rather crestfallen mood, quite close to tears some of the time."

"I felt quite apprehensive about doing this interview, because it's more in *The Psychiatrist's Chair* than *Today*. But I thought, if Diana had been asked about infidelity, one had to ask her (the duchess) that. I think her answer spoke for itself. Had I pushed her further, I don't think she would have been able to continue without breaking down in tears."

One newspaper suggested that Sue wrote a "mollifying" letter to Fergie afterwards. Did she apologise for her questions? "Absolutely not," said Sue. "I just thanked her for appearing, and for answering the questions courageously. I often write, if it was an important interview and got a

lot of attention and was a difficult one for them to do."

"She is not someone with deep intellectual resources to fall back on; and that was part of her charm. What you see is what you get. She is an over-trusting person. And I think the references to 'my man', which some people find hard to take, indicate that she's still dotty about Andrew."

Sue MacGregor, doctor's daughter, grew up in South Africa, which is why she is so addicted to radio: there was no television at all. Within three months of arriving in London in 1967 she was producing *Radio Newsworld* for the World Service, and soon serving a solid apprenticeship on *The World at One* with William Hardcastle.

Her voice has no colonial trace (except when talking to Helen Suzman) but then she lived in Oxford until she was seven. She left school at 16 and for no proper reason skipped university, "a big regret", despite having shone academically.

Her younger sister, a teacher, has twin daughters now reading medicine, one at Oxford and one at Cambridge. "So I live vicariously through them, lapping up every detail about university life."

Was it a lack of education that made the two royal wives so incapable of coping? "That's an intellectually snobbish view," Sue said crisply. "Many people with several degrees can't cope with life. All Fergie did was spend, spend, spend. And as Ruby Wax pointed out — she is a great admirer of the Full Wax treatment — she'd counted all that Counts money to good causes."

The only photograph on display in her flat is of Sue with Nelson Mandela in his jolly shirt at his home in Cape Town. There are no clues indicating a secret, rocky life, and it remains a mystery that Sue has remained unmarried all these years; at least three men have told me they were seriously in love with her. I named X and Y. ("Dear



Sue MacGregor, the consummate interviewer: "The duchess is not someone with deep intellectual resources to fall back on; and that was part of her charm"

X," she says. "Dear Y.") "I used to ask myself that question a lot when I was in my thirties. I suppose I've hesitated to take that enormous step, which comes so naturally to most people. It never quite came naturally to me. I've been in love, and had love affairs, and I still have very close men friends. But it's never quite worked out."

If Sue MacGregor's good sense makes her the antithesis of Fergie, she is also just as much fun, and privately has none of the "nation's nanny" aura. She gives dinner parties and amuses audiences at public events with the putdowns

used by politicians, from Paddy Ashdown's "Good morning, Sue" (ie, a rebuke for her lack of greeting), to Norman Tebbit's "I'm surprised at you, Miss MacGregor. Had you read your *Times* you would know..." and so on.

The Brian Mawhinney outburst happened, she says, because he was in a radio car: in the studio, she would have raised an eyebrow and smiled as she asked the offending question.

Her own politics remain impenetrable. "I really am a floating voter who has voted

for all sides in my time — unlike my former colleague Peter Hobday, who says it is improper for a journalist to vote at all."

She is properly appalled at the prospect of *Today's* moving to the horrible TV Centre and losing its central London location at the hub of the universe, and also its closeness to Oxford Street. (I once saw her in John Lewis's buying curtains, minutes after *Today* ended.)

If there is a danger of the *Today* programme becoming too formulaic and self-satisfied, she says listeners are sharp with their rebukes. "Increasingly we presenters are

bombarded with e-mail, mostly attacking us for not being tough enough with politicians, not for being over-aggressive."

It is amazing that with her fine eyes, good cheekbones and ability to think on her feet, she was not snapped up by television. Desmond Wilcox did ask her to be on *Man Alive*: "He still can't understand why I turned it down." But as a TV star, she might have become subjected to the same unwelcome scrutiny as Anna Ford; her preference is for the intimate anonymity of radio. She hankers to do face-to-face TV interviews, as Jeremy Isaacs did. "But they

probably consider me too antediluvian."

She does no homework, only "keeping abreast" of events without seeing *News at Ten* or *Newsnight*. Her old friend Sir Robin Day is useful with his compendious political memory, and she has just acquired her first PC on which she can access the *Today* programme's plans for the next day. She can also access an Internet website called Live Cameras in Switzerland. Here she can see that Klosters, just across the mountain from where she skis with passionate abandon every year, already has plenty of snow.

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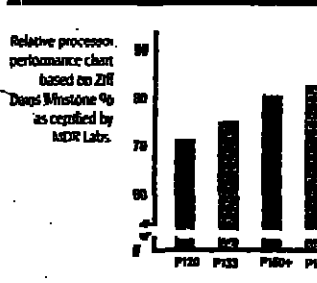


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# Who made mischief for Sir Robin?

Sue Cameron tells the tale of the spin-doctor and the mandarin

Whitehall is braced to take on a new and deeply unwelcome role as party political football in the run-up to the general election. Witness this week's row over the Tories' attack on Labour spending plans and the part played by Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary.

The Cabinet Office described as "a travesty" press reports on Wednesday that Sir Robin had protested to 10 Downing Street about the suggestion that civil servants had improperly helped to prepare the Tory tax "bombshell". Claims that the Civil Service had "derailed" the Government's attempt to tarnish Labour's fiscal credibility were harder to deny.

Moreover, it came only days after an outcry over Michael Heseltine's plan to make civil servants draw up teams of cheerleaders for Tory policies. The press revealed that Sir Robin had intervened to stop the Deputy Prime Minister.

Now it is right and proper that Sir Robin, who is Head of the Home Civil Service as well as Cabinet Secretary, should step in and protect Whitehall officials from political impropriety — even if it does mean reprimanding ministers. However, to be seen doing it publicly, and moreover twice in a week, looks like carelessness — or worse. But in fact the Cabinet Secretary was the innocent victim, not the perpetrator, of an effective piece of spin-doctoring.

Intended to sabotage the Tory tax offensive. As one senior mandarin commented: "It does seem that there was political mischief being made here, almost certainly by the Labour Party. And the handling of the whole affair by the Tories was extremely clumsy."

The chief suspect is Jonathan Powell, Tony Blair's chief of staff and a younger brother of the better-known Sir Charles Powell, Margaret Thatcher's private secretary. There is no reason to doubt Mr Powell's proficiency in the black arts of spin-doctoring.

It was the Government's anxiety to play by the book that gave Labour's spinners their chance. The Tories announced that the civil servants who had taken part in costing Labour's plans had followed guidelines laid down by Sir Robin. First came a report on the BBC, suggesting that in following Sir Robin's guidelines, civil servants had gone through every Labour front-bench speech, looking for policy pledges. Civil servants had in fact done no such thing, and would have been in direct breach of the guidelines if they had. But Mr Powell lost no time in drawing this report to Sir Robin's attention. Only much later that afternoon did the Cabinet Office issue a statement saying the BBC report had been misleading and drawing Labour's attention to the guidelines.

But by then the damage had been done. Having been told — erroneously — that Sir Robin had taken the unusual step of sending a formal minute to Downing Street, the

London *Evening Standard* had made the story its front-page splash by lunchtime. Labour instantly went on the attack, demanding that ministers apologise to the Civil Service. Attention was diverted away from the Tory attack on Labour spending plans by suggestions that ministers had been dragging civil servants into party politics.

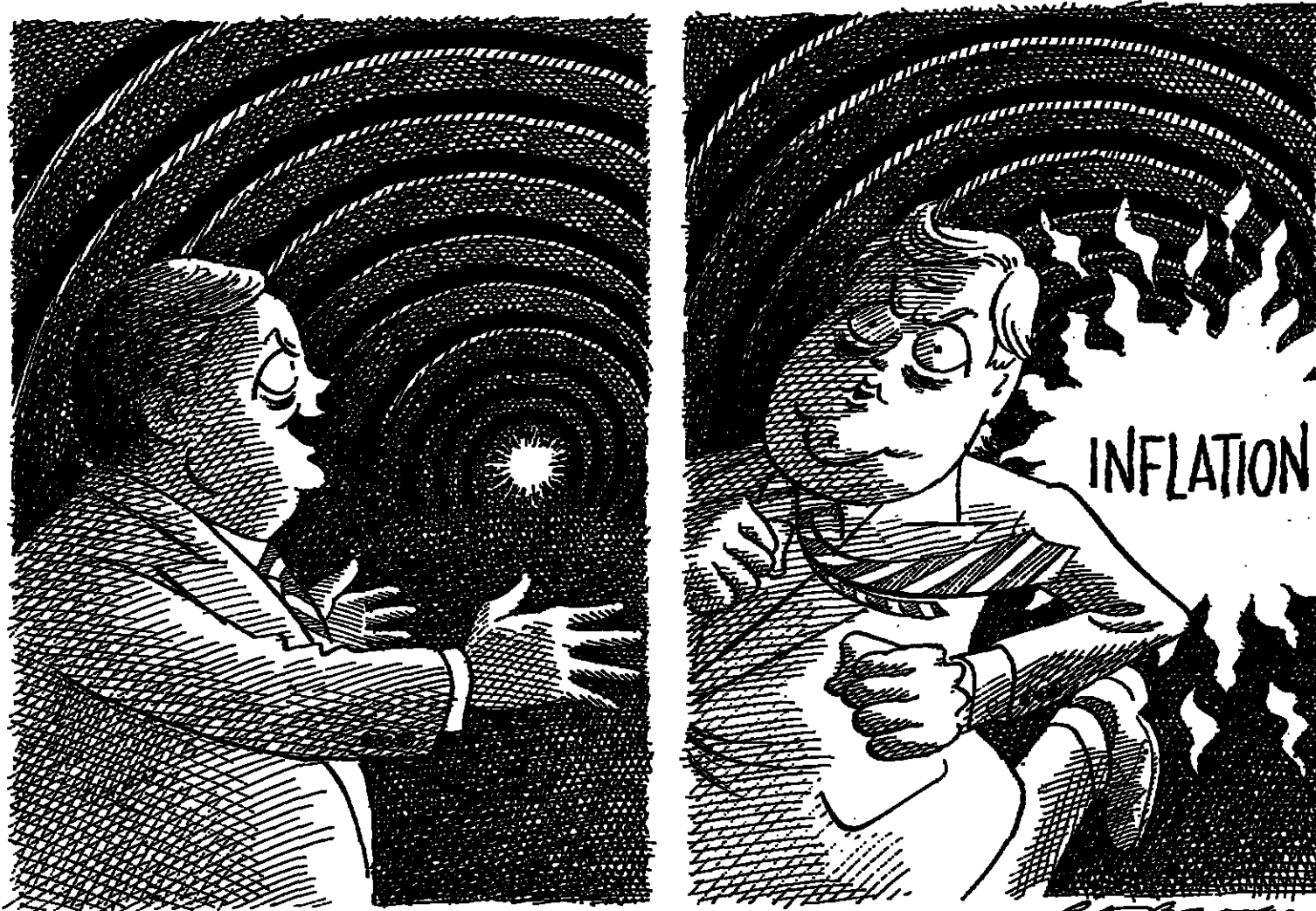
Yet the Tories were quite accurate in saying that officials had followed Sir Robin's guidelines and behaved quite properly. Ten years ago, when he was Second Permanent Secretary at the Treasury, Sir Robin drew up guidance that is clear and specific. "Departments are asked from time to time, under governments of either party, to cost the policies and pledges of their political opponents," it says. "Since departments would provide factual answers to questions from MPs about the costs of identifiable changes in activities or benefits, there is no objection to officials providing such factual information."

The emphasis on facts is crucial. Civil servants must never impugn their political neutrality by, for example, providing a minister with killer phrases for a speech attacking the Opposition. But they can and should provide ministers with hard facts. If ministers use these to criticise the other side, that is their affair.

The guidelines insist that ministers, assisted if they wish by political advisers, must identify exactly what they want costed and what assumptions are to be made. All costings must be cleared with the Treasury before being published. After that, the figures are out of Whitehall's hands, although the guidelines say that officials may "check presentation for factual accuracy and consistency".

Though Sir Robin denies that he was angered by the brouhaha, senior officials believe that he will lose no time in having words with Labour leaders, whom he occasionally meets at the kind of dinners and charity events where all parties are present. Whitehall expects that he will quietly remind Labour of the rules about not embroiling civil servants in party politics. He will point out that the regulations cut both ways: a Labour government would not want its Tory opposition dragging officials into an election row. And he is likely to stress that attempts to impugn Whitehall neutrality by either party could put a strain on relationships between civil servants and politicians — not a happy prospect for an incoming Labour government.

The public would lose too. Voters have a right to know the cost of policy proposals and politicians cannot be trusted to provide accurate information. The professionalism and political neutrality of the Civil Service is the only guarantee that the costings given to the public by ministers will bear some relation to the facts. It would be a tragedy if party political shenanigans were to put such work out of bounds for the Civil Service.



THE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

## Luvvies and critics

So Michael Bogdanov wants us to see behind the curtain. Only a theatre director could be so vain

It comes round once a year, strictly speaking once a year and a half. I myself must have watched the show for something like 30 years, until I could take no more and gave in for ever. The pattern never changes, but the speaker does, very frequently, for it is felt that the tremendous burden would break the back, nay, the very soul, of so treasured a figure.

Some fainthearts have said that surely it will be stowed away for ever soon (some scoundrels have even said that it should never have started), but I knew better, and I was right. The bell rang once more only a week or two ago, so it is fully fresh — or would be fully fresh if it were not steeped in fathoms deep in the sink.

What, you ask, is all this about? If you keep quiet still when the wind is in the west, you will know, because faintly, then less faintly, then loudly and then tremendously loudly, you will hear the complaints.

Which complaints, and who is complaining about what? Why, of course, it is the Luvvies who are doing the complaining — it is always the Luvvies who are complaining. And why are they always complaining? Why, because they think they have not got their true and complete deserts.

The Luvvies are coming! The Luvvies are coming! How many times, over how many years, have I heard that cry? And the cry is, was, and will ever be: "We are actors, we are directors, we are people of the theatre, so we must be treated and fêted to show the world how important we are — so important that we, rather than the author, really should be taking the bows."

I tell you, and I tell you true, that there can be no trade or work or business or craft or vocation — not even a Member of Parliament or a newspaper columnist — that can beat the stage for vanity.

I suppose we all know by now about the new *New Statesman*. The rescuer of that dying magazine is Geoffrey Robinson, MP, who has put considerable sums into the *New Statesman*, in the hope — a good hope I would guess — of reviving the old mag under the editorship of Ian Hargreaves and turning it into a new one. Anyhow, browsing through the *New Statesman*, I found an article by one Michael Bogdanov, of whom I had never heard, but who from now on is to be called Old Boggers, for I discovered that Old Boggers was the

immensely important and indeed absolutely necessary theatre director, who directs and directs and directs, day and night, and even chucks in a bit of designing for the designs.

Very well, very well, get on with it. I do get on with it, for the whining begins almost immediately. But why should there be any whining? Stop and think — who is the enemy? The whiners think well of themselves, but that is true of most of us. Where's the difference? Stop forward those dreadful, evil, disgusting, loathsome and absolutely appalling people called

myself — I should have put money on it — that Old Boggers would, somewhere in his dreadful prose, tell us that.

I would like our critics to undergo a course of practical theatre, the graft and grind of directing, to give them a better understanding of how theatre happens and who is responsible for what.

And he truly believes that what is necessary for the critics is for them to see behind the curtain, when the exact opposite is called for.

Doesn't he even understand that what comes over the footlights (and critics, ladies and gentlemen, the famous director Old Boggers has got a bad notice and the world must stop immediately and then go round the other way.

Now I have been a theatre critic three times, and each time I swore I would never do it again. (It took the third go to make it certain.) The first time was in the then *Daily Express*, and I was so young then that I thought I had died and gone to Heaven. For a time, my dear friend Robert Muller was the critic of the *Mail*, while I was at the *Express*, and at curtain-fall we pounded down to Fleet Street arm in arm, each to our respective desks, to beat the chopper, sometimes by only a few seconds. (Some will call it Bob and me — "The Koshers butchers.") Robert quit early, but I went on to become a columnist as well as a critic. The last time I was a critic was very many years ago: I remained a columnist but handed on the baton, and now John Peters has it, poor devil.

I have digressed, but for a purpose. The purpose is to demonstrate to puffed-up, ignorant, whining Old Boggers that critics not only don't go about to ruin the lives of brilliant, immensely clever theatre directors, but actually have an entirely different job to do. When I started on Old Boggers's ghastly wailings, I said to

myself — I should have put money on it — that Old Boggers would, somewhere in his dreadful prose, tell us that.

Life-art criticism is not a straight line but a triangle, with the critic at one apex, life and art in the others. If we were to draw an authorial triangle, the

writer would occupy the same position in relation to life and art.

Now if you look at the page in any newspaper's theatre listings, and examine the list closely, you will see that roughly half the theatres are filled with musicals, and a considerable number of the non-musical plays have been in the same places for years on end — yes, and not just *The Mousetrap*. For instance, *Dial M for Murder*, *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *The Woman in Black*, *Blood Brothers*. And many of the plays that don't stay for years are themselves oldies. For instance, at the moment, we can see *The Cherry Orchard*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *An Inspector Calls*, *An Ideal Husband*, *A Doll's House* and *When We Are Married*.

What does this mean? It means, at least to me, that the British theatre is in an appalling state, and Old Boggers should address himself to that state, rather than pouncing around and beating his breast and implying that he is the greatest director of plays in the entire history of the world, bar none.

But let us apply ourselves to a rather different theme. There are, at the moment, a tiny, a very tiny, number of first-class new plays in London, where, after all, most of our theatre goes. Actually, at the moment, there is only one new truly first-class play going — the teasingly named *Art*, which is a stunningly brilliant and funny three-man story, which turns into something very tragically unfunny.

Let's have more good plays, eh, folks? But Old Boggers would say — scream, actually — that the excretory critics (I forgot to say that Old Boggers is one of those who think excretory) would ruin the plays.

Well, they might. But would it matter very much? I do greatly enjoy the theatre, but I would not throw myself over a cliff if the theatre in Britain shrivelled up and died. After all, there is precious little left of it now, and there will be even less in a few more years. I said that our theatre is in an appalling state, and so it is, but the world will not stop spinning.

Sometimes I wake shuddering, and think that I am a theatre critic again, but I shake my locks and think of Old Boggers and I smile. And — I shall let you into the secret — I smile because Old Boggers doesn't.

Bernard Levin

Philip Howard



The best myths are always the ones that drag on

Mortals still need myths. But today's myths appear in *Helio* rather than *Homer*. The *Cinderella*/Penelope myth (in which girl marries Prince (or Duke, or Gazzo or some other imagined god) and then lives unhappily ever after, echoes stories as old as Danaë and Creusa (Penelope was the beggarmaid whom King Cophetua married). The National Lottery will soon repeat twice a week the Midas/Aladdin myth that gold cannot buy you happiness. Vampires and werewolves are stock cinema topics, too.

Even the smart booksellers stack books about dragons, descended from Tolkien's *Smag*, under the new fantasy genre practised by Terry Pratchett and his ilk. *Dragonheart*, in which Sean Connery gives the dragon a Morningstar Scot-Nat growl as well as snorting fire from its nostril, is roaring through cinemas. Computer games and cartoons are infested with dragons. Boydell & Brewer, which publishes scholarly books of which some university presses would be proud, leads its autumn list with *Dragons: The Modern Infestation*. This is a brilliant piece of cod scholarship about the science of verminology (dragons), and it hints at the importance of dragons to Western culture. And in his inaugural lecture at Bristol University on Monday, Professor Richard Buxton discussed the modern prevalence of dragons.

And much else, of course, as one would expect from a young sage of mythology and our nearest native equivalent to Walter Burkert. For scholars, the scoop was Buxton's discovery that no fewer than 280 of the votive tablets at the Oracle of Dodona asked "Will we have children?" But it was naturally the dragons that caught the amateurs' attention. Why are we evidently still so interested in creatures which, with respect to Chinese New Year in Soho and Boydell & Brewer, never existed in the extreme acceptance of the word "exist"?

Levi-Strauss, another who explored this man's land of the imagination between the tame and the wild, said "monsters are good to think with". Richard Buxton, defines a myth as a socially powerful traditional tale whose origin has been at least partially forgotten. The sort of stories he has in mind are the Judgment of Paris, the Garden of Eden, the Virgin Birth (passim in mythology, see *The Golden Bough*), and William Tell. And of course, in England, Robin Hood, who still inspires almost as many films and video games as dragons. Robin has become part of our national heritage. What a banal fate for the red-blooded Nottinghamshire hero, who took from the rich and gave to the poor, to be sat on by Virginia Bottomley.

Buxton's example of a classic modern myth is *Jurassic Park*. OK, so it was a crummy film, with brilliant special effects. But the children loved it. The acting? Richard Attenborough and the rest seemed to have been programmed by slow-motion computer animation, and it was a shame that the film-stars were not all eaten, including those odious children. But the dinosaur/dragon myth is compelling. Meat-eaters versus placid vegans, with volcanoes erupting doom in the background.

Like many good old myths, the dinosaur story has an end. After being Lords of the Earth for more than 150 million years, the dinosaurs were wiped out as a result of catastrophic environmental change at the so-called KT extinction event. Some ascribe the catastrophe of the dinosaurs to a meteorite, which lends the myth its ultimate X-factor, or perhaps X-File factor. There lies a modern myth.

Medical advances, for example in cryogenics, have raised the possibility of the indefinite prolongation of life. Genetic engineering is forcing us into a radical reconsideration of the boundary between nature and culture. The dinosaur myth explores anxieties about the boundaries between life and death, between nature and culture, about medicine and genetic engineering. Dragons entertain as well as they terrify, grown-ups as well as children, sophisticated children of the new millennium as well as of the Bronze Age.

Clever Hellenists such as Richard Buxton, while having one foot in the past, also have one foot in the present. Unless, of course, they are one-legged Hellenists.

## Hard Labour

HEADS swivelled on Tuesday night as the Goldsmith clan turned up with Diana, Princess of Wales at Wilton's restaurant in Jermyn Street, an expensive fish joint, to wet the head of Jimima's baby, Sulaiman. Umran Khan was absent, having already returned to Pakistan.

Among diners in the restaurant who were craning for a glimpse of royalty as the entourage swept past to a private room was Peter Mandelson, a fey acquaintance of the Princess. In another corner was Alan Clark, languid diarist and former minister, who has clearly given up hope of becoming an MP again.

As the private party progressed, Sir James Goldsmith emerged into the main restaurant and invited Clark to join them, which he did for a short while. He also beckoned to Mandelson, giving rise to a crisis of conscience for the dapper Labour adviser.

A recent lunch with Baroness Thatcher was one thing, but to be seen consorting with Sir James, even though it would have meant meeting the Princess again, was beyond the pale. Mandelson quickly made clear to paparazzi in the

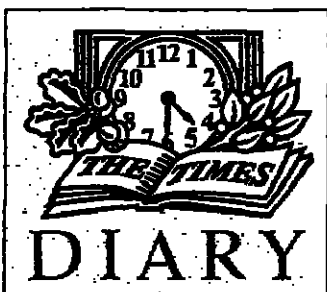
cold outside that he would have nothing to do with Goldsmith and his cronies.

### Bear baited

THE SECRETARY of State for Defence, Michael Portillo, has returned from a very important fact-finding visit to the former Soviet Union where he was able to put his Russian O-level to best use conversing with the army top brass. It reminded him of an earlier visit to Nato, where a conversation with a Russian general took him by surprise.

The general growled at Portillo, and gravely asked him whether it was true that Nato operated on the basis of consensus: whether British soldiers were allowed to leave their bases for longer than a weekend; and whether they could go more than three miles from their bases when on leave. Portillo indicated that these were indeed the facts.

The general knitted his brows pensively and then leant forward. "Had we known all this," he boomed, "we would have invaded ten years ago."



Overwhelmed by the impending visit of the Princess Royal recently, Mortimer Hospital in Hackney paid her the highest possible compliment. Workmen were detailed to change the tennant room from the frightfully named Gossip Corner to Café Royale — which is even worse.

### Bodywear

CAPRICE BOURRET, the American underwear model, has found a kind of fame in London that she never achieved back home. Sucked into a flesh-coloured catsuit, she was at the Ken and Barbie Childline fundraiser in a South Kensington restaurant, along with Tara, Tamara and Mr and Mrs Pat Cash.

Miss Bourret's evening, however, nearly ended in suffocation.

At around midnight, she began to sweat, her breathing quickened and her sea-breeze cocktail wobbled precariously in her hand.

Fortunately, while the blazers around him were still oblivious to her plight, a nearby photographer spotted that she was in trouble, and willingly rushed over and unzipped her catsuit to halfway down her back. Relief. At last, she could breathe properly again. She even let out a giggle to celebrate.

### Lord a-leaking

LORD MOTTISTONE took a ducking in the Lords debate the



Caprice: tight squeeze

other day on water companies. The septuagenarian sailor, Conservative and godson of the Duke of Windsor, informed Earl Ferrers of his domestic arrangements: "Is my noble friend aware," he asked, "that as a result of being metered for the past five or six years I pay around half the amount for my water that I did when it was rateable?"

Earl Ferrers: "My Lords, that is interesting. I suggest my noble friend applies the same technique to his whisky bottle."

### Jaded palette

INNOCENT they may be to look at, but the paintings of Mick and Bianca Jagger's daughter Jade — who opened her first solo exhibition in a West End gallery last night — are by all accounts bursting with hidden meanings.

Critics have referred to "mandalas which exude mysticism, divinity and spiritual quiescence" in the fluttering paintings of butterflies. Jade herself talks of the "power of the painted image above an external theory of colour symbolism or prescribed forms laid down by Tantric priests in their search for spiritual ecstasy".

The fancy stuff is all lost on me.

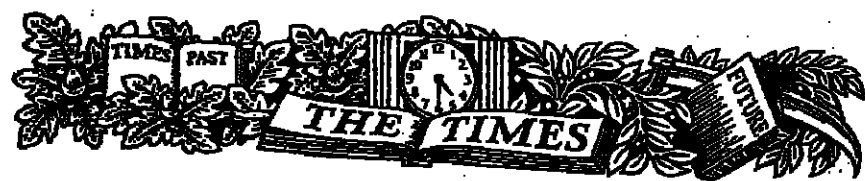


Jade Jagger, artist

but there was a jolly party last night, attended by Mick and Bianca as well as by various designers. And someone remarked on the lavish use of gold leaf in her paintings: "She clearly isn't starving in a garret."

P.H.S





## THE WATCHDOG POODLE

A single currency needs Parliament's singular scrutiny

Stealth has been the handmaiden of European integration, and democracy its brake. The difficulties encountered in getting the Maastricht treaty through the British Parliament and past the French and Danish peoples tempered the centralising ambitions of Europe's governing elites for a time, but did not reform them. The bruises only reinforced the need to shield the forward march of federalism from scrutiny. It is unfortunate that the Prime Minister should now be an accomplice in this process. By deciding to prevent the Commons properly debating plans for monetary union, John Major is treating the watchdog of Parliament as a poodle. In doing so he has offended not only constitutional principle but most of his own backbenchers. Even by the most cynical standards of the Whip's Office the Prime Minister is in the wrong.

The regulations that Mr Major considers adequately investigated after an agitated hour in committee are not minor legislative changes which should only detain the attention of the obsessive. They are provisions for the operation of a European single currency with potentially devastating effects on Britain's prosperity and independence. He has resisted calls to rule out British participation in a single currency because he wants to maximise Britain's influence over its evolution. That is, in itself, prudent diplomacy. But if Mr Major wishes to maximise effective scrutiny of the single currency, he should surely allow Parliament to debate its development fully.

Mr Major argued recently in *The Times* that a single currency created on the wrong terms could be a "disaster" for Britain, even if the British Government had not joined, because of the effects on our main trading partners. Vital British interests are at stake in the form that the single currency will take. This issue should not be smuggled past MPs. The single currency deserves singular scrutiny.

It is not just concern for the health of those

nations which do join a single currency, and their effect on Britain, which should concern Parliament. The regulations which Mr Major insists need no further scrutiny could, according to Martin Howe, QC, lead to a future British government, outside the single currency, being fined by the European Court for following an economic policy in the interests of its own citizens.

The draft regulation on surveillance of budgetary positions could require the British Government, even if outside a single currency, to provide details of its economic plans to show that progress is being made towards "convergence" with the euro. Britain would not be able to veto such a provision because the regulation has been framed under Article 103 of the Treaty of Rome, as amended by Maastricht, which allows content to be decided by qualified majority voting. If a future government then submitted budget plans which did not "converge" it could face a financial penalty. Under Articles 169 and 170 of the treaty, the British government could be fined by the European Court of Justice for running an economy that was too competitive relative to the Continent.

It is bad enough that Britain might be punished for protecting its citizens from a single currency. The attempt to deny Parliament the chance to scrutinise the possibility properly is insupportable. It is not good enough to say that Parliament will be able to decide on the merits of a single currency in future. There is every chance that these regulations could bind Britain even if it stands aloof. If the regulations are innocuous then the Government has nothing to fear. If they are as dangerous as Mr Howe fears then a debate is imperative, because the single currency opt-out, like the social chapter opt-out, will prove a paper shield. The Prime Minister should not only allow a debate, he should also speak in it, if he believes that the opt-out he fought so hard to secure is still a sure protection.

## THE SPEAKER'S CORNER

In Clinton's new term Gingrich bids to be the come-back kid

With open reluctance in some quarters, Republicans in the House of Representatives have confirmed Newt Gingrich as their leader and Speaker in the Congress to come. The caution of his colleagues is understandable. Although a Republican House has re-elected for the first time since the Great Depression, many members suffered the fright of their political lives. Few could pretend that in most districts Mr Gingrich was anything other than a liability. Since the principled but ultimately unsuccessful struggle to force President Clinton into a balanced budget agreement 12 months ago, the Speaker has suffered continuous highly adverse public poll ratings.

Democrats and their supporters in the union movement exploited that negative standing effectively this year. Virtually all House Republicans were labelled as "Gingrich extremists". And, although more than 70 charges against him have already been dismissed, a special counsel is still investigating various allegations of ethical impropriety. Little wonder that a rather subdued Mr Gingrich has pledged a lower profile and less combative style over the next two years. It all seems a long way from the *Contract with America*, and its barnstorming first hundred days.

Mr Gingrich is not finished yet. His party has backed him despite all these difficulties because of his enduring assets. He remains an inspiring visionary, a supreme political strategist, and the man most capable of bargaining between the various interests and egos among Republicans on Capitol Hill. There is no obvious alternative of similar quality. Unless there is real substance in the remaining ethical questions against him, he will remain at the helm. Nor does he need to be that defensive. While Mr

Gingrich certainly overreached in both the scale of his programme and style of his pronouncements, Mr Clinton's second term gives him the opportunity to advance his agenda and remake his image.

Conservatism remains the dominant force within the American electorate. If Mr Clinton had not recognised that and swiftly adapted to it he would have lost office. The areas that Mr Gingrich will promote in the next Congress — eliminating the budget deficit, tax cuts, deregulation, smaller government, further welfare reform — are widely supported, even if he personally is not. Republicans are remarkably united, committed, and disciplined both in philosophical terms and in their votes on the House floor. This coherence will make the management of business somewhat easier for the Speaker than his slim 20-seat majority might suggest.

Mr Gingrich should also enjoy a better relationship with his colleagues in the Senate. Senate majority leader Trent Lott is now at least the equal of the Speaker; but that is no disaster. Mr Lott is much closer to Mr Gingrich in ideology than Senator Bob Dole ever was. The Senate over which Mr Lott presides has just witnessed both an increased Republican membership and a significant shift to the right within party ranks.

Mr Gingrich remains the enigma of American politics, alternating between the brilliant and the bizarre at breathtaking speed. If he disappeared from public life tomorrow he would still rank among the three most important Speakers of the century. If he proves capable of learning from his mistakes, then he can push forward a set of popular initiatives next year and dare the President to veto them. It would be dangerous folly for Democrats to underestimate him.

## MISS WORLDLY

Who is to define obscenity in the land of the Kamasutra?

Not since the Trojan War has a beauty contest threatened such dire consequences. Sniffer dogs are patrolling the giant stadium, two all-women platoons of paramilitary police are on standby for snatch arrests, bomb squads are in place and police will form a ring of steel around the arena in Bangalore where Miss World will be crowned tomorrow. In recent years the contest has provoked catcalls, demonstrations and shrill denunciations by feminists protesting at this festival of the female form. But rarely has it threatened a general strike or the self-immolation by fire of activists.

The bemused organisers can be forgiven for wondering how the popular show, likely to attract an audience of two billion people, can have provoked such a furor. India is a country where entertainment is big business: its cinema industry is one of the largest in the world, its festivals, pageants and wedding extravaganzas are occasions for public display, exhibition and exuberance. India is anxious to become part of the international television world, showcase its diversity and demonstrate that it is a thoroughly modern society. Indeed, Indian women have on several occasions been winners of previous competitions, profitably capitalising on their success.

The Miss World contest has also made gallant attempts to get away from its past:

contestants have to demonstrate charm, intelligence, ambition and grace as well as an alluring figure. The most controversial section, the swimsuit parade, has already been held in the Seychelles, a setting where such kit is more suited to the landscape. As *The Times* of India noted yesterday, this is not a celebration of nudity or obscenity. And who is to define obscenity in the land of the *Kamasutra*? Surely Indians are not so faint-hearted as to faint at the sight of a row of beauties parading in colourful, if somewhat abbreviated, costumes?

But matters are not so simple. There is a distinct disenchantment in non-Western countries at being offered hand-me-down entertainment that has gone out of fashion in London, Paris, New York and Los Angeles. Some Indians have become resentful of the dominance of Western entertainment on their airwaves and screens. Hindu activists have denounced what they see as an insidious attempt by the West to undermine traditional values and subvert Indian morals. Many in the West would have some sympathy with this cultural assertiveness. And yet the first Indian kiss on celluloid dates back to the 1930s. India is a sufficiently diverse society to withstand a temporary influx of preening pulchritude. Miss World will be crowned tomorrow. But no one is obliged to worship at her court.

## Some perspective on the tunnel fire

From Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Twickel (9th/12th Lancers, ret'd)

Sir, With the benefit of hindsight we are now being treated by many journalists to their superior concept of design, construction and operation of the Channel Tunnel (reports, November 19, 20, 21). If they had had their way we would still be squabbling over where to start digging.

The fact remains that the evacuation of the passengers from the tunnel was conducted with no loss of life and with best speed in a most successful operation. Of course lessons will be learnt and no doubt there will eventually be some modifications to equipment and procedures. Let us however not be drawn into unnecessary "knee-jerk" reactions.

Before the first bridge over the Severn Estuary was built British Railways operated a service for cars through the Severn Tunnel. Because passengers were separated from their cars and because of the bureaucratic and inflexible modus operandi of this now happily defunct body a journey which should have lasted 30 to 45 minutes took many hours with the result that hardly anyone used it and the operation lost money.

In Switzerland (a nation not exactly renowned for laid-back railway staff) cars are loaded onto railway flats, passengers stay in their cars and indeed could in theory stand on the flats outside their vehicles. For instance the Lötschberg tunnel has two railway tracks running in the same bore and there is no additional service tunnel. Yet the safety record there is excellent.

I have taken my car both through the Channel Tunnel and through Alpine tunnels. I am very happy with the present arrangements. I do not wish to travel in a different railway wagon from my car as this will add time and further inconvenience to my journey. I for one would rather put my trust into the team of engineers and businessmen who made this most remarkable engineering achievement possible than those who only think they know better.

Yours faithfully,  
ALEXANDER TWICKEL,  
Tidmington Corner,  
Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire.  
November 21.

From Mr E. H. R. Fane

Sir, A ferry capsizes. Safety systems fail. Many people die. Ro-ro designs are questioned. An inquiry is initiated — but ro-ferries continue to operate.

A Channel Tunnel freight train catches fire. Main safety systems appear to operate. All people survive. Design is questioned. An inquiry will no doubt be initiated — but passenger services are suspended indefinitely until, according to the spokesman for Eurotunnel whom you quote today, "the safety authority has ensured that the safety of people is assured".

Is this fair?

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD FANE,  
15 Kyrle Road, SW11.  
November 21.

From Mr Christopher Jackson

Sir, In today's leader, "Nightmare scenario", you refer to Parliament being "told that tunnel services cannot be resumed until absolute safety can be guaranteed". But "absolute safety" does not exist in any form of transport. Ships sink, ferries overturn, trains, planes, cars, lorries and coaches crash. The history of transport is generally a record of increasing but never absolute safety.

As a former pilot, and as one who frequently uses both the tunnel and the ferries, this week's accident, which was without loss of life or serious injury, seems to me to prove that the tunnel services provide a safe mode of transport compared to most, and one which will become safer still as procedures rather than hardware are improved.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER JACKSON  
(Conservative MEP,  
Kent East, 1979-94),  
5 Wellmead Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent.  
November 20.

## Lottery watchdog

From the Director General of the National Lottery

Sir, I am writing to comment on Valerie Elliott's report, "Lottery watchdog rebuked by MPs for not checking Camelot" (November 14), and your leading article the following day, "His number is up".

As a public official I expect my actions to be scrutinised, reported in a reasonably balanced way, and criticised where justified on the basis of the facts. Your paper's reporting and comment is unbalanced and inaccurate, and (to quote your leading article) any "bad publicity that [my] continuance in office has engendered" has mainly been generated by successive instalments of *The Times*'s long-running criticism of me.

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is fully considering the National Audit Office (NAO) report *Payments to the National Lottery Distribution Fund* and the evidence that I gave to the PAC on November 13. Your comments, meanwhile, are based on an inaccurate statement about what the NAO found; on selective quotation from the comments made by some members of the PAC at

## Financial problems of Bar trainees

From Mr Michael Paget

Sir, With respect, Judge McCarthy (letter, November 15), when explaining the historical development of the relationship between a pupil and his or her self-employed pupilmaster, fails to place it in a modern context.

It is, of course, accepted that pupils acquire invaluable insight through this unique training, but the Bar as a whole must concern itself with the financial burdens on present-day pupils. Without reasonable awards high calibre but impecunious candidates will turn elsewhere. Surely for the Bar to have a flourishing future it must endeavour to recruit people who accurately reflect society, in all its diversity?

Yours,  
MICHAEL PAGET  
(Pupil barrister),  
1 Harcourt Buildings,  
Temple, EC4.

From Mr Matthew J. P. Roberts

Sir, As a second-six-months pupil I find Judge McCarthy's observations on pupillage ill-informed. The majority of people who undertake the Bar vocational course have done so in substantial debt from the high level of fees for Bar school (£5,500) and the cost of living in London. Most of those fortunate enough to obtain pupillage have an overdraft at the outset.

Judge McCarthy's suggestion that a trainee solicitor undertakes work of merit which deserves payment whilst those training at the Bar do not is untenable. Pupils are required to undertake many tasks ranging from research and doing large amounts of paperwork to becoming accustomed to court appearances. Whilst those training as solicitors have both a guaranteed salary and to some extent regularised hours, those in pupillage are required to work whatever hours are demanded of them, quite often for no reward.

The judge's suggestion that a pupil should remunerate his pupilmaster betrays a lack of understanding of the modern Bar. I am astounded that anyone could possibly believe that the Bar is so different from any other profession that it can justify denying a basic level of subsistence during the professional training stages. This is a problem that is acknowledged by both the Bar Council and the Inns of Court, who are striving to ameliorate such hardship.

Yours faithfully,  
M. J. P. ROBERTS,  
Verulam Chambers,  
Verulam Street, WC1.  
November 19.

## Parlez-vous French?

From Mr Eric Dehn

Sir, I cannot agree with Susan Elkin ("Parlez-vous Français?", Education, November 15) when she claims that standards reached in foreign languages were higher in the good old days.

We learnt a language in the past, in my case some fifty years ago, in order to deceive an examiner rather than to communicate, and emerged from school qualified but totally tongue-tied. Grammar, of course, should not be ignored so long as it is linked to usage but there was an over-emphasis on the mastery of rules and a neglect of conversational fluency. Even as recently as the 1980s I taught a student who never made a mistake in writing: I felt frustrated with my red-ink pen permanently suspended, but he never said anything. I sent him to a family in France and the father wrote to me saying: "Never again send me a boy who keeps telling me I ought to have used the subjunctive."

Dictation, containing grammatical traps to catch the unwary, rarely used material that was relevant (why must that word always have a derogatory implication?). In my own distant schooldays I remember being subjected to a dictation telling me that a harassed beggar met an embarrassed pedlar gauging the symmetry of a lady's ankle in the cemetery. A compromise between ancient and modern methods of teaching will not lead to a lowering of standards.

Yours sincerely,  
ERIC DEHN,  
5 Trelawney Road, Bristol.

From Mrs Chris Grovenor

Sir, I entirely agree with Susan Elkin about the contrast between the rigour of the O-level French course and the current GCSE version. Even more demanding were the language papers of the School Certificate examination which I took in 1943, with one exception: the oral examination was a joke.

I went on to take French in the Higher School Certificate and the S-level papers. I thoroughly enjoyed the extensive study of Molière and the classical tragedies, could read French with the same facility as English and translate passages of considerable grammatical complexity into French.

However, I found that after the war when travel again became possible I could not, without much hesitation, ask for directions or order a meal, let alone hold a conversation.

Can we not devise language courses which combine intellectual discipline with conversational facility? One only has to hear Dutch or Scandinavian 15 to 16-year-olds speaking English to know that it is possible.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRIS GROVENOR,  
11 The Quadrangle,  
Kings End, Bicester, Oxfordshire.  
November 16.

## Island files

From Dr G. A. Howlett

Sir, Some 15 years ago the late Professor Richard Cobb gave a brilliant series of lectures on everyday life in occupied France. Being a humane and civilised man he would warn his listeners not to judge too harshly, from the privileged position of these uninvaded islands, the sad and shabby compromises with which many Frenchmen and Frenchwomen had adapted themselves to the new reality.

His words came back to me with a special poignancy when I read your report (November 20) on the release of previously secret files on the Channel Islands during the last war. While as a historian I applaud the availability of new evidence, I cannot help feeling that you were wrong to give prominence to the names of several alleged practitioners of *la collaboration* in horrid and other misdeeds. Many of the people involved are no doubt still alive, and apart from a taste for vicarious revenge and ritual humiliation I can see no reason to name them to a wide audience.

Yours faithfully,  
GARETH HOWLETT,  
16 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh.

the hearing; and on criticism of the Government's long-standing approach to NAO access to private sector companies.

Nothing in the NAO report suggested that "only one of the 21 checks had been implemented". The NAO in fact said: "As at 31 October 1995, much work had been done on the development of the compliance work programme, but this work was not complete" and showed that 10 of the 21 programmes had been reported on. Work was in progress on others.

Furthermore, I made clear to the PAC that these checks are only part of the layers of control put in place by Of- lot since the outset of the National Lottery. This programme is now fully in place. I would also remind you that all sums recorded as due to the Distribution Fund had been paid punctually and in full.

I made clear in my evidence to the PAC that although I have complete ac-

cess myself to any Camelot information I need, and all this information is thus available to the NAO, I have no powers to require Camelot to open its books directly to the NAO. It is the Government's stated view that such direct access is neither appropriate or necessary.

Finally, the PAC was not concerned with unclaimed prize money, as your leader suggested. They questioned me about the amount by which the operator has fallen short of the prize target set year by year in the licence. As I explained to the committee, the reasons for this shortfall are to a large extent outside Camelot's control, and I am reviewing the matter to see whether a better system can be found.

The NAO report suggests that Camelot earned interest of £6 million on the shortfall. However, the good causes are £153 million richer to date as a result so, while the current system is not perfect, it has certainly benefited the good causes. Overall, they have benefited by £2.7 billion from the National Lottery.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER DAVIS, Director General,  
National Lottery,  
2 Monck Street, SW1.  
November 20.

## Budget appeal in aid of the family

From the Executive Director of CARE and others

Sir, If taxes are to be reduced in next week's Budget, should not the Chancellor's priority be to give help to those taxpayers who need it most?

In recent years the tax burden has swung markedly from single people without children onto married couples, particularly those where one partner stays at home to look after the children or elderly or dependent relatives. If income tax rates are cut again while tax allowances are increased (if at all) only in line with inflation, the main benefit will not be felt by families, many of whom are among the least well off.

The fragmentation of society, leading to poorer education and health standards and increased crime rates, has many causes; but the increasing disregard for marriage is certainly one of them. We believe that the most immediate and direct way of helping families by tax changes would be to increase the married couples allowance.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLIE COLCHESTER,  
Executive Director, CARE.  
†MICHAEL BOWEN,  
Roman Catholic Archbishop of Southwark.  
†JAMES HULLEN,  
Bishop of Hull.  
DAVID COFFEY,  
General Secretary, Baptist Union.  
CLIVE CALVER,  
General Director, Evangelical Alliance.  
PAUL JINADU,  
General Secretary,  
Afro-Caribbean Evangelical Alliance.  
c/o CARE (Christian Action  
Research and Education),  
53 Romney Street, SW1.  
November 20.

## Going to St Ives

From Mr Michael Knight

Sir, Anyone going to Cornwall with the seven wives in mind (leading article, November 18) may end up at the wrong place. St Ives, Cambridgeshire (near Huntingdon) has some claim to be the town mentioned in the rhyme.

The tenuous evidence for this is that St Ives, Cornwall, was spelt St Iles (no "v") until the 16th century and did not rhyme with "wives". The origin of the verse may predate the inclusion of a "v" in the Cornish name.

Yours etc,  
MICHAEL KNIGHT,  
Quay Court, Bull Lane,  
St Ives, Cambridgeshire.  
November 14.

## Oxbridge blues

From Mr Tim Houghton and others

Sir, The annual graduate recruitment battle is upon us. As in every year since Henry II kindly set in motion the murder of Thomas à Becket — thus providing the impetus for the inception of those noble universities, Oxford and Cambridge — many of those tired and battered soldier scholars, retiring from the field without a job, are crying "Oxbridge bias".

Oxford and its bastard child Cambridge (only kidding) are portrayed *ad nauseam* as bastions of privilege. In many ways this is quite the case. They provide a frighteningly effective education. The experience of alone defending an ill-conceived and fundamentally flawed essay against a tutor who is the intellectual equivalent of *HMS Dreadnought* is intensely valuable. It prepares one for almost anything.

However, the Oxbridge graduate earned this undeniably superb education. He or she was probably required to have attained distinction at A level. The Oxbridge interview can be harrowing: he or she will then have been made to work ferociously hard.

Our friends who were at other excellent universities are not made to feel guilty about their success. Why should Oxbridge graduates — who have, on average, extremely good academic credentials — be made to feel that they owe theirs to a sinister "Oxbridge bias"?

Yours faithfully,  
TIM HOUGHTON  
(Exeter College, Oxon, 1992-95),  
BEN PILLING  
(Lincoln College, Oxon, 1991-94),  
JON HOUGH  
(St Hugh's College, Oxon, 1991-95),  
c/o 5b Natal Road,  
Streatham Common, SW16,  
November 19.

## A Cambridge summer

From Dr M. J. Michinson

Sir, I think the champions of a longer summer term at Cambridge (report, November 15) must have been my younger colleagues.

In my undergraduate days, when priorities were different, it was common knowledge that the date of the end of the summer term was decided by the Jockey Club. They decided the date for Goodwood years ahead. Henley, in turn, had to be placed before Goodwood: clearly, term must end before Henley.

Yours faithfully,  
M. J. MITCHINSON,  
University of Cambridge,  
Department of Pathology,  
Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.  
November 15.

Business letters, page 31  
Sport letters, page 48

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.





## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
November 21: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Bedford Railway Station this morning and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire (Mr Samuel Whitbread) and the Mayor, Borough of Bedford (Mr Apu Bahl).

The Queen drove to Westbourne Centre, Westbourne Road, and was received by the Chairman, Queens Partnership (Mr Thomas Wells).

Her Majesty toured the Centre, meeting some of those who use it, and opened the Nursery.

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, afterwards opened Harrowden Middle School and was received by the Chairman of Governors (Counsellor Tony Mitchell) and the Head Teacher (Mrs Cheryl Birchbeck).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness later honoured the School meeting pupils and staff.

The Queen, with the Duke of Edinburgh, later honoured the School meeting pupils and staff.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this afternoon walked through St James's Square and Harpur Square, escorted by the Mayor.

The Queen afterwards opened Cygnet Wing, Bedford Hospital, was received by the Chairman, Bedford Hospital NHS Trust (Mr Gilbert Beazley) and viewed some of the wards in the Wing.

Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness, later opened the new Brigade Communications Centre, County Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Kempston, and was received by the Chairman, Bedfordshire Fire Authority (Mr Peter Holland) and the Mayor of Kempston (Counsellor Olga Wesley).

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited Bedford Sports and Hockey Club.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited E.F. Taylor plc.

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of the Queen, held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

November 21: The Prince Edward, Trustee, this afternoon held a meeting of the International Council of the Duke of Edinburgh Award International Association at Marlborough House, at 9.30, and will attend a council dinner at the Army and Navy Club, at 7.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, will attend a reception to launch the Crime Concern Services brochure and high crime neighbourhood strategy, National Motorcycle Museum, Solihull, at 10.30.

**Sir Ronald Leach**  
A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Ronald Leach will be held in the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire in St Paul's Cathedral, London at 11.30am on Monday, January 20, 1997, followed by luncheon at Cutlers' Hall, Warwick Lane, London EC4A.

**Dr John Newton Agar**  
A memorial service for Dr John Newton Agar will be held on Saturday, November 30, at 2.30pm in Sidney Sussex College Chapel, Cambridge.

**University news**  
**Cambridge**  
Queens' College  
Mr Murray I. Milgate has been elected an Official Fellow at Queens' College, from October 1.

**BIRTHS**  
**BORODA** - On November 19th at The Portland Hospital to Jennifer (née Ross) and David, a beautiful son. A brother for Jessica.

**BOYALIAN** - On November 19th at The Portland Hospital to Pamela and Mark, a beautiful daughter Mary Helena, a sister for Christopher and Pi.

**COLEMAN** - On November 13th at St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, to Amanda (née Williams) and Charles, twins, Emma and James.

**CORRIE** - On November 13th, to Louise (née Prince) and Richard, a daughter, Alice Louisa McLeod, a sister for George.

**FENNELL** - On November 19th, to Katie (née Gort) and James, a son, Edward, a brother for Victoria.

**FLETCHER** - On November 19th, to William and Laura, a son, Charles William Louis, a brother for Harry and Jamie.

**HANNA** - On November 15th at The Portland Hospital, to a beautiful daughter Maria Josephine, a sister to Joseph.

**JOLLY** - On November 16th, to Rose (née Scott) and Charles, a daughter, Alice Louisa McLeod, a sister for George.

**MACKINNON** - On November 17th, to a beautiful daughter Maria Josephine, a sister to Joseph.

**MARRON** - To John and Pamela (née de Zulueta) on 19th November, a son, Nicholas, a brother to Natalie, Isabelle and Corinna.

## Service dinners

**The Queen's Royal Lancers**  
Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Swinburn, Colonel of The Queen's Royal Lancers, presided at the annual officers' dinner held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

**Corps of Royal Engineers**  
General Sir John Stibbon, Chief Royal Engineer, presided at a Corps of Royal Engineers guest dinner held last night in Chatham, Sir Frederick Crawford.

**RAF Strike Command**  
Air Chief Marshal Sir William Wren presided at the guests at a dining in night held last night at RAF Strike Command, High Wycombe. Group Captain A.F. Beedie presided.

**University of London Air Squadron**  
Air Vice-Marshal J.R. Day, Air Officer Commanding No 1 Group, and Professor Andrew Rutherford, Vice-Chancellor of London University, were the guests of honour at the University of London Air Squadron's annual dinner held last night at the squadron's town headquarters, Wing Commander R.J.A. Powell, Squadron Commander, presided.

**Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother**  
The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Queen's Royal Highland Regiment, upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment).

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**ST JAMES'S PALACE**  
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The Wimbledon tennis referee, Alan Mills, who as a player in 1961 was the first Englishman to beat the Australian champion Rod Laver, with the insignia of the OBE he received from the Prince of Wales at a Buckingham Palace investiture yesterday

## Memorial services

**Lord Killara**  
The Lord Chancellor attended a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Killara held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey.

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## Forthcoming Securities Institute marriages

**M.G.E.C.M. de Champvallier**  
and Miss M.E.D. Cacciatore  
The engagement is announced between Gilles, son of Michel and Françoise de Champvallier, of Paris, and Melissa, daughter of Adelmo Cacciatore, of Rome, and of Susan Cacciatore, of London.

**Mr J.A. Farren-Brown**  
and Miss G.H. Cammish  
The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Geoffrey Farren-Brown, of Radridge, Buckinghamshire, and Guy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Cammish, of Mapledurwell, Hampshire, and Mrs Teresa Cammish, of Cockfield, Suffolk.

**Mr A.P. Goldstone**  
and Miss K.E. Calman  
The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Dr Leslie Goldstone, of Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Stephen Calman, of Westminster, London.

**Mr M.S. Guy**  
and Miss K.M. Merkill  
The engagement is announced between Matthew, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Guy, of Worcester, Shropshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr Tom Merkill and Mrs Mary Jane Merkill.

**Mr G.W.A. Rock**  
and Miss M.R. Leatham  
The engagement is announced between Orlando William Adam, younger son of Mr and Mrs Tim Rock, and Miranda Rosemary, daughter of Mr Simon and Lady Victoria Leatham.

**Mr J.M. Salt**  
and Miss C.A.M. Cohen  
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Salt, of Leigh-on-Sea, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bruce Cohen, of London.

**Colonel R.A. White**  
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The engagement is announced between Robert White, of South Wiltshire, and Tessa, widow of Adrian Maynard, of Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire.

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## The Securities Institute Training and Qualifications Awards have been presented by Sir Martin Jacobson, Chairman, Prudential Corporation, at the Oulton Hall, London EC2.

**Securities Institute 1996 Prize Winners**  
The Securities Institute Award for Excellence: Richard Jennings, BNP Paribas, London.

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The Securities Institute



OBITUARIES

# PROFESSOR HUGO BUCHTHAL

Professor Hugo Buchthal, FBA, art historian, died on November 10 aged 87. He was born on August 11, 1909.

An authority on the history of both Byzantine and Western medieval art, Hugo Buchthal was a scholar whose work, if not intended for a wider public, was in its factuality a source of reference for all specialists in his field. Committed to the austere tradition of German art historians, he was drawn to his somewhat abstruse and neglected field of research at an early age and remained dedicated to it throughout his life.

His finest work, *Miniature Painting in the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem* (1957), was a model of its kind, bringing palaeographical and liturgical analysis to bear on meticulous visual examination of the miniatures.

The cultural interchange between East and West was a persistent theme of Buchthal's work and provided the subject matter for several other publications. But he also wrote books both on the French and Italian manuscripts of the 10th century (*Historia Romanorum*, 1971) as well as on Byzantine painting of a later period (*Paragonage in 13th Century Constantinople* with H. Belting, 1978).

Possessed of an extraordinary memory, Buchthal though he worked whenever possible from original sources — could recall manuscripts he had looked at from almost any period of his life. Much of his research was centred around the Warburg Institute, which he served as librarian for some eight years while also lecturing at the Courtauld Institute.

Later, as Professor of Fine Arts at the New York Institute of Fine Arts, he moulded the minds of future generations of art historians, passing on his own rigorous methods of strict historical and visual analysis.

Hugo Buchthal was born in Berlin into a cultured and financially comfortable Jewish family. He read philosophy and art history at the Sorbonne before going on to study for a doctorate at Heidelberg University. There he was held in thrall by two of the most inspiring minds in his field: Erwin Panofsky, then Professor of Art History, and Fritz Saxl, director of the Warburg Institute — then known as the Kulturwissenschaftliche Bibliothek Warburg.



His academic career would probably have progressed unhindered in Germany had the Nazis not come to power and immediately set about implementing their policy of the removal of Jews from all levels of German society. Jewish university teachers were temporarily dismissed in the summer of 1933 and Buchthal was warned by Saxl that if he could not finish his dissertation within two weeks it was unlikely that he would be able to continue, for the Warburg Institute in which his research was centred was likely to be closed before the new academic year began.

Amazingly, Buchthal completed his thesis on the Paris Psalter in time, though he was later to expand and revise what he had done, publishing it in 1938 in the *Studies of the Warburg Institute*. It remains a basic reference point for scholars of Byzantine art.

Forecasting the damage which a Nazi regime would cause to scholarship in Germany, Saxl, with the financial support of Samuel Courtauld — who had recently founded the Courtauld Institute — arranged for the Warburg library to be shipped to London. There it became a focal point for Germany's

dispossession and exiled cultural elite, among them Buchthal. But the library offered at first no regular jobs for junior staff. Buchthal, with the aid of a grant, studied Arabic instead at the School of Oriental and African Studies before taking up a fellowship from 1936 to 1937 at the University of Beirut. He made himself equally familiar with medieval Latin, Greek and Arabic manuscripts, and on his return to London he was in demand as a lecturer at the Courtauld.

The Warburg was evacuated to Denham on the outbreak of the Second World War and in 1941 Buchthal was appointed its librarian. Later, when the war was over and the Courtauld Institute was incorporated into the University of London, he combined this position with a lectureship in art history. Among the doctoral students whom he supervised at this time was Michael Kauffmann, later to become the director of the Courtauld. In 1949 Buchthal was promoted to Reader and in 1960 appointed to a Chair. He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1959.

It was in 1965 that Buchthal was lured to live in New York with the offer of a professorship at the then thriving centre of medieval studies at the New York Institute of Fine Arts. There he found himself enormously sought-after as a lecturer and he, in his turn, groomed his best students so that today they fill many of the most senior academic posts in America. Buchthal also lectured regularly, travelling all over the world.

On his retirement in 1975 Buchthal returned to live in London, but continued to be widely and to research at the Warburg until into his eighties. Although he would sometimes humorously describe his later publications as his *senilia*, he was a man of the highest integrity who ceased publishing when he thought his work would no longer pass the strictest scrutiny.

Hugo Buchthal married in 1940 Amalia Serkin. She died a week after him. He is survived by a daughter.

# ALEXANDER KELLY

Alexander Kelly, pianist and teacher, died after a stroke on October 23 aged 87. He was born on June 30, 1909.



NOT many teachers of Alexander Kelly's generation could match the influence he exerted. He gave a lifetime of service to the Royal Academy of Music, but his reputation was by no means confined to that single institution. As well as teaching the piano, he pursued an active and varied career as a performer, and was a regular and effective adjudicator of competitions and examinations.

Alexander Kelly's talent as a musician was first discovered by his Scottish primary schoolteacher, and he was only 17 when he won a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music, where his teachers included Harold Craxton for piano and Lennox Berkeley for composition. In 1960 he returned to the Academy as a professor of piano. He went on to spend 34 years on the staff, eight of them (from 1984 to 1992) as head of keyboard studies.

As a pianist, he maintained an active career both as a soloist and a chamber musician. He made his Festival Hall debut playing C.P.E. Bach under Beecham, and gave solo recitals at the Wigmore Hall and the Edinburgh Festival. He appeared with many distinguished performers, but his favourite duo partner was always his wife, the cellist Margaret Moncrieff.

The Classical period was Kelly's great enthusiasm, but he was also an effective advocate for contemporary composers. In recent years he recorded some fascinating English repertoire for the British Music Society and played a number of broadcast recitals for Classic FM, for which he provided his own spoken introductions — witty, memorable and succinct.

Throughout his career he also served on innumerable juries, most recently for the Scottish International Piano Competition and as chairman of the Music Advisory Committee of the Caird Trustees.

He combined a capacity to judge at the highest level with an exceptional gift for inspiring young musicians of all abilities.

He was never interested in devoting himself only to the outstandingly talented. A glance at his diary for the past year reveals a number of appointments with distinguished soloists seeking his advice before performances of the major concerto repertoire on the South Bank; but these sit alongside consultation lessons for students from schools all over Britain, who came to play to him their Grade VIII repertoire before facing the rigours of the examination. All received equal attention, and an equal share of his boundless energy and formidable musical knowledge.

He had the great gift for a teacher of being able to distinguish between the important and the trivial, and he could sum up a battery of points in a single well-turned sentence. Always kind and encouraging to the timid, he could be formidably direct to the arrogant or the ill-prepared, though even then his nature was such that a smile was seldom far away. He was generous with his time and his hospitality. Pupils who came for lessons to his house in

Barnes often found themselves on the receiving end not only of teaching and ideas, but of food and philosophy as well.

Unlike many distinguished piano teachers, Kelly was willing to embrace new developments in keyboard design and manufacture. He had a close relationship with the firm of Yamaha and often demonstrated its Clavinova range of electronic pianos side-by-side with 9ft concert grands. In the piano industry, as throughout the musical profession, his gift for friendship made him a popular figure.

His love of words was second only to his love of music. He cared deeply about poetry and published a small volume of his own poems under the title *Visitations* in 1986. Some of these celebrate music and teaching, others his long spiritual journey towards the Roman Catholic faith into which he was received in 1979. More often than not, as he travelled on the No 9 bus from Barnes to the Academy, he would have with him a book of poetry — sometimes Greek verse in the original. His intellectual curiosity remained undimmed after his retirement.

He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

# KENNETH WATKINS

Kenneth Watkins, OBE, founder of the Woodland Trust, died on November 13 aged 86. He was born on December 6, 1909.

WITH the rise of industrial farming techniques in the 1960s, the small woods, copses and spinneys which for generations have characterised the British countryside were rapidly vanishing. Felled and ploughed over to make way for more convenient agricultural management. It was this which led Kenneth Watkins, at a time when many would be looking forward to a peaceful retirement, to found the Woodland Trust, an organisation

prepared to take responsibility for the ownership and management of these fast disappearing woodlands.

Run on an entirely voluntary basis for its first five years, the Woodland Trust has now grown into a national conservation body owning and protecting more than 600 broad-leaved woods across Britain. As chairman of the trust for some 21 years Watkins guided its work, encouraging unobtrusive styles of woodland management.

Kenneth Watkins was born in suburban Bromley and educated at Merchant Taylors' School in London. But he had always had an interest in rural

life and in the late 1920s he moved to Exmoor as a farm pupil. There he found himself contented, not least because he had suffered from breathing problems in the polluted urban environment. He and his brother bought neighbouring properties which they farmed together for some years before going on also to establish a business selling tractors.

The business was successful, expanding considerably during the Second World War when there was an urgent need for agricultural machinery and vehicles. It continued to prosper when the war was over and Watkins began importing agricultural machinery, such as Volvo combine harvesters from Sweden. By the time the business was sold so that the two brothers could retire in 1972 it had become one of the largest importers of agricultural equipment in Britain.

However, parallel with his business commitments, Watkins had always taken a strong interest in conservation and wildlife. He became honorary secretary of the Devon Naturalists Trust in the 1960s, a position which he held for more than ten years and for which he was appointed MBE in 1971.

He was a keen wildlife photographer and won prizes

for his work. His short film, *A Naturalist's Year*, won a Ciné World prize in 1960. In complete contrast, Watkins also enjoyed racing Formula 500 sports cars and competed all over the country.

Watkins founded the Woodland Trust in 1972, supporting it substantially from his own resources during its early years as a voluntary organisation based in the West Country. He launched the national expansion of the trust through the appointment in 1977 of a national development officer, John James, now the trust's chief executive, and he persuaded the Countryside Commission that the trust should become the second organisation, after the National Trust, to receive a grant for land purchase.

In 1985 he donated 233 acres of his farm to the Woodland Trust and, in 1989, he was advanced to OBE for his services to conservation. The British Naturalists Association presented him with the Sir Peter Scott Memorial Award last year, shortly after he had been succeeded as chairman of the trust by a long-standing colleague.

Yet despite the vigour and determination of his campaign for conservation, Watkins was a shy and modest man who shunned self-publicity and eschewed the limelight. He loved English country life and even in his eighties, despite breathing difficulties which had dogged him since childhood, he could be found walking the woods.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, whom he married in 1959. They had no children.

# ALEXANDER D'ARBELOFF

Alexander d'Arbeloff, entrepreneur and writer, died in London on October 30 aged 101. He was born in Koutais, Georgia, on October 21, 1895.



President was killed in a plane crash and replaced by another unsympathetic to the scheme, was eventually completed.

D'Arbeloff and his family moved to the United States where in due course they were granted American citizenship. But he continued to travel, often to Brazil where he initiated other major development projects. During the war, he worked in the administration of a New York shipbuilding company.

Throughout his life d'Arbeloff's entrepreneurial enthusiasms ran parallel to a more thoughtful side of his personality. In later years it was this latter aspect which came to the fore. He published a book, *The Word Accomplished*, under the pseudonym A. B. Christopher in 1951. And in 1953 he directed, with his daughter Anne, an experiment in international understanding called *Contrastland*. In a villa in Florence, students from different nations were introduced to each other and to an understanding of one another's cultures.

Under the title *Who Do You Think You Are?* he conducted a series of filmed interviews with several well-known personalities including Françoise Sagan, Gipsy Rose Lee and Art Buchwald, though this was, in the end, never released. But his short film, *Report on Love* a comic view of the Kinsey report using animation, won him an award at the Cannes Film Festival.

For the last 15 years of his life d'Arbeloff lived in London. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

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# BLUNT CASE 'KNOWN AT NO 10 SINCE 1967'

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, told a packed House of Commons yesterday that information Professor Anthony Blunt passed to Russian intelligence had seriously damaged British interests, although it was unlikely that British military operations or lives had been put at risk.

The debate ended without a vote and there were no serious calls for a public inquiry.

Opening the debate on the events surrounding the activities of the self-confessed spy, Mrs Thatcher disclosed that, in spite of denials by Professor Blunt about his role in warning Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean in 1951 when they were about to be arrested, he did indeed help with the arrangements for their escape to Russia.

The Prime Minister said it was Philip who warned Burgess to tell Maclean that he was about to be interrogated and that it was Burgess who used Blunt as a contact with a Soviet controller to help with the arrangements for Maclean's flight to Russia. He was joined in that flight by Burgess.

It seems clear also from Mrs Thatcher's

# ON THIS DAY

November 22, 1979

The news that Anthony Blunt, the eminent art historian, had been a Soviet agent was revealed by the Prime Minister in the Commons on November 15. Five days later he gave interviews to *The Times* and *The Guardian* to the (understandable) annoyance of the rest of the Press. He died in 1983.

speech that the Queen was informed in 1964, after Blunt had confessed to espionage. Mrs Thatcher said after the Attorney-General's authority was given to offer immunity to Blunt, the Queen's Private Secretary, Sir Michael Adeane, was invited to a meeting with the permanent secretary at the Home Office and the director-general of the Security Services.

Sir Michael was told that Blunt was suspected of being an agent of Russian intelligence. He asked what action the Queen was advised to take, and was told that the advice was to take no action.

# LATER THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL TOLD THE HOUSE THAT THERE COULD BE NO STRAIGHT ANSWER ABOUT THE ADVISE OF THE SECURITY SERVICE. IT WAS A LONG-STANDING TRADITION, HE SAID, THAT ALL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE QUEEN AND HER PRIVATE SECRETARY WERE CONFIDENTIAL AND MUST REMAIN SO.

Both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Home Secretary, who opened for the Opposition, spoke of their disgust at what had taken place and of their belief that there could be no excuse of conscience for treachery.

Earlier Mrs Thatcher told MPs that all Prime Ministers and Home Secretaries since 1967 had been informed about Professor Blunt; that would include Sir Harold Wilson, Mr Heath and Mr Callaghan.

Few of those listening to Mrs Thatcher could have avoided the conclusion that her clear but dramatic account of the events leading to the revelations of the past few weeks left little unanswered and that the directives to the security services, the law officers and other ministers have been thoroughly reviewed so that future prime ministers are unlikely to be bypassed as was Lord Home in 1964. Even the most suspicious of MPs must have been satisfied that there was no attempt to provide any sort of Establishment cover-up.



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